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# THE Country GUIDE

G-35



November, 1946



# G.W.G. WESTWOOL JACKETS



## HEAVY DUTY MACKINAW JACKETS IN BRIGHT COLORS

TYPE I

Vancouver Stag--  
with extra warmth in  
double yoke and  
double sleeves.

TYPE II

Cruiser coat with  
double yoke, and  
game pocket across  
back.

TYPE III

Button-fitted jacket,  
double yoke for extra  
warmth. Tightens at  
side band.

TYPE IV

Zippered jacket that  
is tailored to neat lines  
and comfortable fit.  
Zipper breast pocket.

Exclusive G.W.G. pure, warm WESTWOOL is the fabric.

THE GREAT WESTERN GARMENT COMPANY, LTD., EDMONTON



# Land Settlement and Other Problems

Veterans in British Columbia in no hurry to leave cities for free land and cash

By CHAS. L. SHAW

**A**FTER World War I hundreds of returning British Columbia soldiers and sailors took up farming. While that war was still in progress, boards of trade and government agencies made elaborate plans for an expected back-to-the-land movement and, sure enough, it materialized. Vancouver Island and the interior of British Columbia were dotted with soldier settlement projects.

Generally speaking, in spite of all the enthusiasm whipped up for them immediately after the return of peace, these land settlement schemes were a failure—in some instances a costly fiasco. A few of the hardier and most industrious soldier-settlers stayed on the land and eventually made a success; but these were the ones who probably would have succeeded anyway, regardless of government patronage. The vast majority drifted away from the land that had been set aside for them and sought other jobs, mostly in the cities. By and large, the program so ambitiously planned just didn't work out.

This ancient history is recalled here because of the apparent lack of interest on the part of World War II veterans in the land settlement proposals laid before them by a grateful government. A good many possible reasons could be cited for this apathy. One of them, of course, is that many of the veterans have money in their banks and are taking their time in choosing a career. Another is that most of the ex-servicemen show a preference for city jobs because they offer higher pay, even though their city-earned money won't buy the things that country-earned money will. And then there might be the memory of bitter experience by their counterpart of the earlier war. They don't want to run the risk of failure that was the lot of most of the men who settled in British Columbia back in 1918-20.

This doesn't necessarily mean that ex-servicemen of World War II won't eventually find their vocation on the ranches, orchards and truck farms of the west coast province; it simply means that they aren't being hurried in making their decisions, and they can afford to wait a while.

**T**HIS attitude is probably the reason why only a handful of men have so far applied for the offer of 160 acres of land and \$2,320 in cash to develop it, which the government has made to all bona fide veteran-farmers. The offer has been open for months, but there have been so few takers that officials are wondering if the terms should be even more liberal. British Columbia, however, is the only province that has set aside land free for veterans, with no strings attached and the proposition couldn't easily be made much more attractive than it is. During the next few months there may be a readier acceptance; British Columbia hopes so, because the province badly needs more settlers of the right type—able-bodied young men and their families who are prepared to make their living on the land.

The provincial government is committed to a policy of opening up the country to encourage settlement. It hopes to complete several new basic highways during the next few years so that the motorist can travel from one centre of population to another with reasonable certainty of reaching his destination without getting mired in mudholes or having a series of blowouts on rough gravel surfaces. In addition, the government has pledged itself to the building of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway into the Peace River country.

This will be a substantial undertaking, for the railroad at present goes no farther north than Quesnel, which is a considerable distance from Prince George, let alone the Peace River country. But the government means business; it has already embarked on the building of a highway north from Prince George to the Peace River country, so the rail extension is a more or less logical corollary. A few years ago a statement such as Premier John Hart made a few days ago—that the government was determined to push the railroad through—would have been shrugged off as just another pious hope expressed for political effect; but there is no doubt of the premier's sincerity, and there is less reason to question announcements of expansion when so much progress is already materializing in other directions.

**A**NOTHER favorable sign is the gradual elimination of labor stoppages which cropped up like an unsightly rash all over the province's industrial face this year. First there was the loggers' strike and the tieup of all lumber production; then a foundry strike and a threatened strike of fishermen. For more than 100 days there was a strike of hard rock miners, which effectually closed up practically all the province's copper and gold mines just at a time when they had been expected to return to full production after wartime shortages. This last walkout, which affected more than 1,000 miners, was finally settled during mid-October.

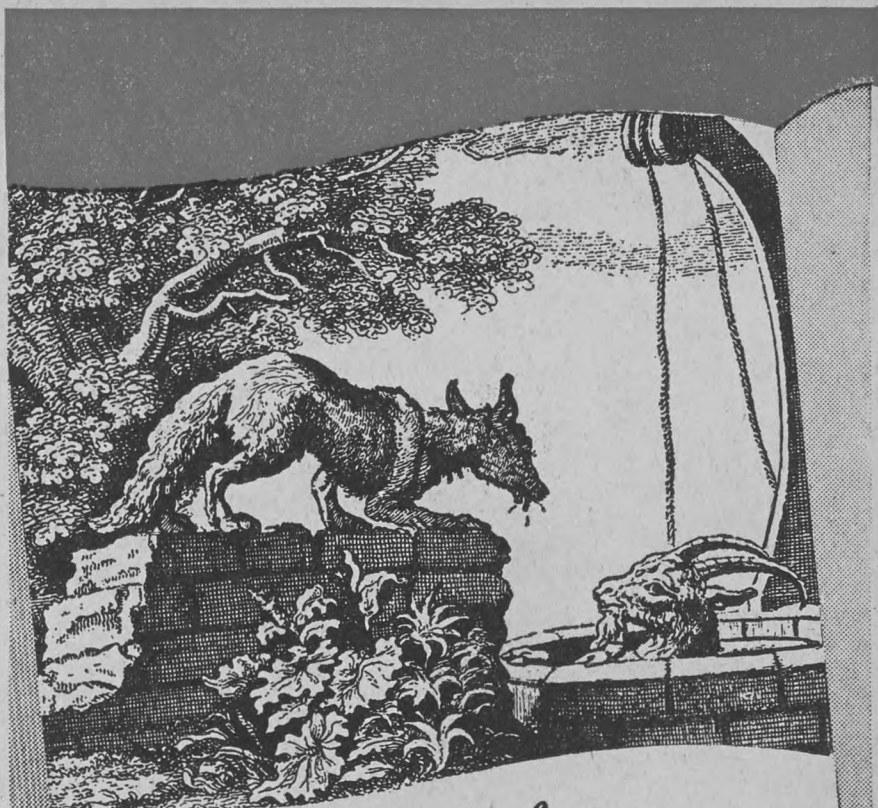
With demand for almost every product of British Columbia mines, forests, fisheries, farms and factories never more insatiable than it is today, there is small justification for the fact that there are 18,000 idle in the province, most of them in Vancouver. The government has a record of 11,000 openings for labor, but prospective applicants just aren't the right type, they don't like the offer or they prefer to wait a little longer in the hope that something better will turn up. The situation has improved, and no one seems disturbed over the problem of unemployment. On every hand you hear the comment that there are plenty of jobs—if the men want to work.

The grain movement through British Columbia ports is again well under way, and at the time of writing about 100 cars are reaching Vancouver every day, with ships promptly loading cargo. There had been some anxiety earlier in the season when shipments were less than anticipated, but the Canadian Wheat Board's representatives on the coast seem confident now that all immediate commitments will be met.

Any fears that might have lodged among fruit growers as to the readiness of their market this year were dispelled by the announcement in Ottawa that Canada would attempt to ship to the United Kingdom 2,252,000 boxes of British Columbia apples.

Generally speaking, this has been an exceedingly favorable season for the fruit growers of British Columbia. They had good growing weather, a big crop, a nice market and reasonable prices; what more could they ask?

The statistics on the 1946 apple crop make cheerful reading. It's probable that when the final check is made it will be found that the crop totalled more than 9,000,000 boxes—an all-time record. Tree fruits will represent a record cash return to the growers, too—something between \$25,000,000 and \$30,000,000, according to the expectations of the growers' marketing agency.



## Fable of The Fox and the Goat

A Fox, having tumbled into a well, cast about, to no purpose, how he should get out again. A Goat came to the place, and, wanting to drink, asked Reynard whether the water was good. "Good!" says he: "ay, so sweet that I have drunk abundantly." The Goat, upon this, leaped in; and the Fox, taking the advantage of his horns, nimbly leaped out, leaving the poor Goat at the bottom of the well, to shift for himself.

*"Look before you  
leap"*

Don't buy the first thing that comes along. Be specially careful of the underwear you buy! Consider quality first — look well at the maker's name! If it bears Stanfield's label you can be sure that you're getting the finest quality underwear . . . soft, warm and durable! It may not always be available, but it's worth waiting for!

We hope more materials will soon be available to make enough Stanfield's underwear to supply the demand from our retailers from Halifax to Vancouver.

**STANFIELD'S**  
*Unshrinkable*  
**UNDERWEAR**  
SOFT • WARM • DURABLE





# "So that's why you're not in the movies, Mom!"

**MOM:** Uh? What's why I'm not in the movies, Mite?

**MITE:** Because you don't massage your gums with it after you brush your teeth with it.

**MOM:** Oh? Well, don't tell your father, Darling. He thinks I'm wonderful. Massage my gums with what?

**MITE:** Well, Golly, with Ipana, Mom! At school, Teacher says soft foods don't give gums enough exercise, so people should massage their gums after they brush their teeth.

**MOM:** They should? Why?

**MITE:** She says it's because healthier gums mean sounder, brighter teeth and movie stars have bright teeth don't they, Mom?

**MOM:** And I don't?

**MITE:** Not like Deadeye Dick's lady in "Gunsmoke On The Range." She—

**MOM:** Flatterer!

**MITE:** But Mom! Teacher says without the right exercise, gums might get flabby and tender. Yes, and if people get "pink" on their tooth brush they should see their dentist right away. Like you should Mom! Because there's "pink" on your tooth brush right this minute! See!

**MITE'S RIGHT.** He's one of many school children today who know more about modern dental care than their parents. In classrooms all over Canada, teachers are explaining the need for gum massage . . . its importance to sound gums and bright teeth.

And behind these teachers is the authority of dental opinion as evidenced in a national survey among dentists. It shows that 7 out of 10 Canadian dentists approve this routine—recommending regular gum massage.

If your tooth brush "shows pink," don't ignore that warning. See your dentist. He may suggest "the helpful stimulation of Ipana and massage," as so many dentists do.

For Ipana Tooth Paste is especially designed, with massage, to help strengthen your gums, to keep them firm and healthy . . . to give your teeth a whiter, brighter lustre . . . to put a new sparkling radiance in your smile.

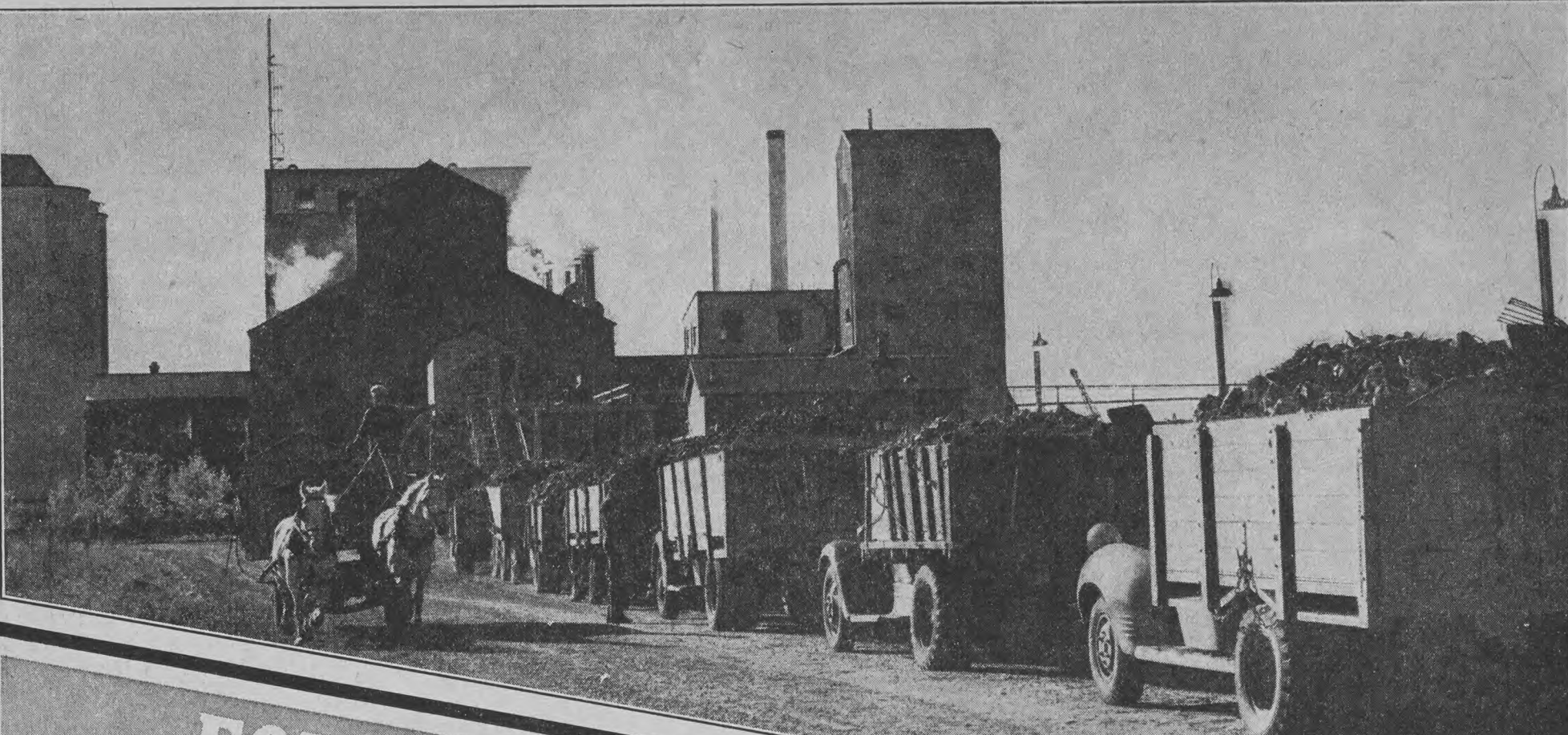
Start to-day with Ipana and massage.



## Ipana and Massage

A Product of Bristol-Myers—Made in Canada





# EQUALITY FOR AGRICULTURE

By H. S. FRY

## A bird's eye view of Agriculture's basic problem and some difficulties inherent in its solution

**T**HE recent unrest among prairie farmers has brought into the limelight an age-old agricultural complaint, the principal difficulty in the adjustment of which, is, perhaps, the problem of defining it satisfactorily. It has been defined many times to suit those putting forward the definition on behalf of agriculture, but John Public has never so far, in Canada, taken sufficient interest in the subject to put forward a definition of his own, or consider very seriously any of the others.

In general, what farmers have in mind is that they, as a group, should enjoy the amenities and the social services now available to city dwellers in such generosity and variety, and that the way should be made clear for agriculture to take its place on equal economic and social footing with organized labor and organized industry. They feel that society does them an injustice by compelling them to accept lower average incomes, inferior entertainment, inadequate medical and nursing services, fewer cultural opportunities, unequal telephone service, poorer roads, a notable lack of electrification and an extremely high relative cost of education. They feel that they are entitled to all of these benefits of modern civilization; and many seem to feel that a sufficiently high price for farm products would enable farmers to achieve these benefits for themselves.

Even if the soundness and fairness of the complaint were admitted, as I believe it would be by most people of sense, or even if the admission were accompanied by a will to rectify injustice, the disparity is not easy to eliminate. Farmers have, themselves, put forward many formulae: Cost of production plus;<sup>①</sup> farm prices which would bear a more or less continuous relationship to farm costs;<sup>②</sup> and the imported (U.S.) parity price proposal which would keep farm and non-farm prices on the same relationship as existed in some previous period selected as a base.<sup>③</sup>

All of these proposals are open to the same objection, from the point of view of farmers themselves. The objection is that they would not achieve the broad end sought. The scope of a single relatively short article is not sufficient to completely analyze

these proposals, but perhaps it will be possible to at least point to the reasons why they are not adequate.

The cost of production theory is the most attractive, because it is the simplest. Unfortunately, there are many costs of production. In an industry of 700,000 businesses scattered between the Atlantic and the Pacific, it would take a thousand economists five years to collect complete data, and a few more years to analyze it, by which time the information would be out of date. Furthermore, no system of costs, no matter how elaborate, could withstand the competition of world markets in an industry which must export a fifth of all it produces and as high as three-quarters in the case of specific commodities. Farmers, it would appear, must deal with the important factor of cost in some other way than in expectation of guaranteed prices sufficiently high to meet all costs,

plus enough extra to yield net incomes equal to those of city dwellers.

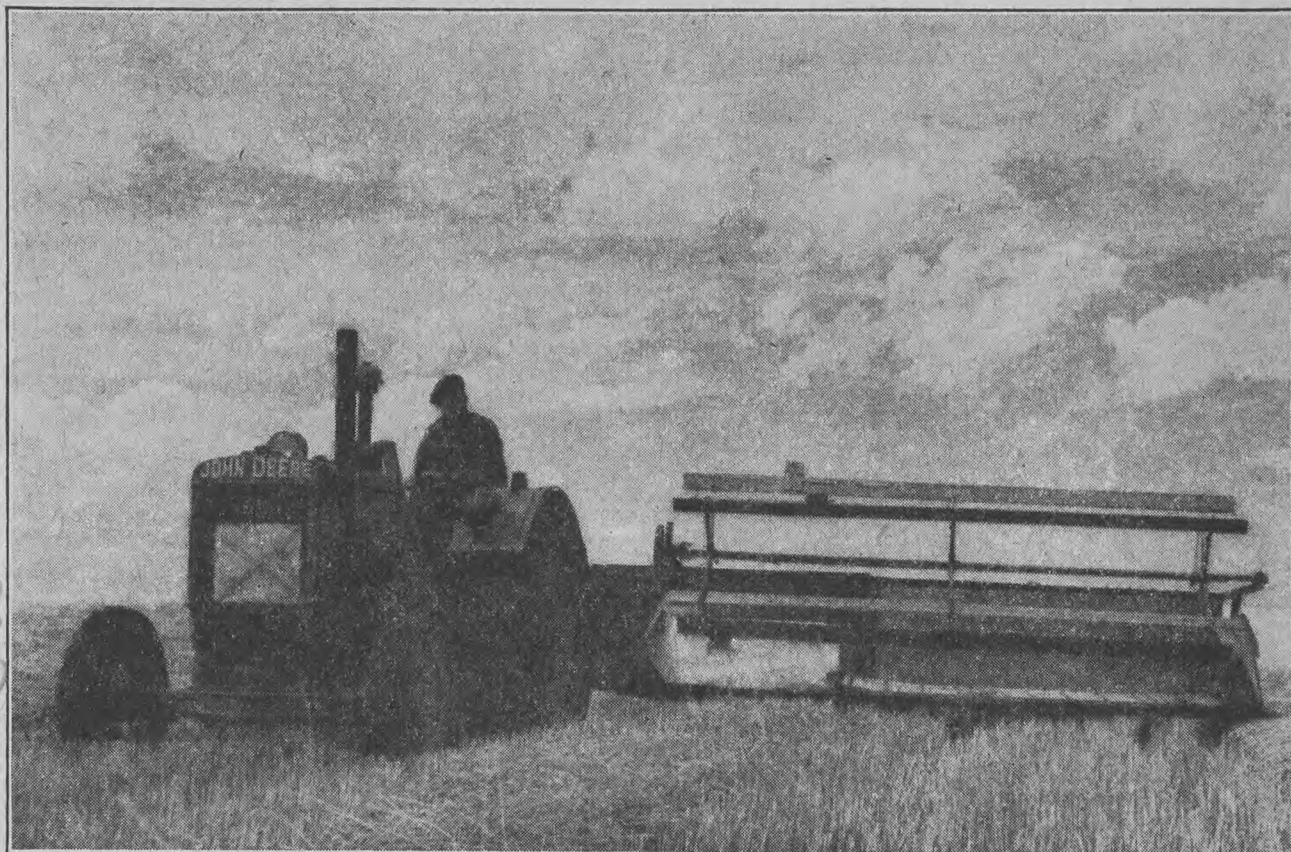
**T**HE second and third proposals referred to, may, for our present purposes, be

considered together. The underlying principle of each is the same; namely, that two sets of prices should be tied together in a fixed relationship such as existed in some selected period in the past. Assuming that equality for agriculture, a broad general term already outlined, is the legitimate aim of farmers and farm organizations, and if it is true, as I believe it to be true, that agriculture has never yet achieved parity of position with other major segments of society,

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*Diversity of farm income adds stability to farm business.*

*Lower: The last swath is laid and if the weather remains favorable, the crop may be harvested without loss of grade.*







*I lowered my bugle. Little Dan sat up. "Go ahead and play," he urged.*

*Illustrated by*  
CLARENCE TILLENIUS

# THE SILVER BUGLES

By KERRY WOOD

Finally we got somewhere, too, and won the prize for being the best in the province. Cholly was our star player—Cholly Cram, that is. His dad was Dr. Cram and mayor of our town, and pretty rich. Cholly was taking cornet lessons on the side from a teacher that came twenty miles from the next town, and that probably helped him with the bugle. He sure could make his bugle ring loud, and I was proud to be in his patrol of Scouts. We all knew that Cholly was the best bugle player in Valleyhill, bar none. He was away better than Little Dan Ellsworth, everyone knew that. But somehow on Armistice Day, Little Dan's silver bugle sounded so different from ordinary bugle music. "He's pretty far gone this time," some would whisper.

"We should speak to Captain Knowland."

"Think of the example it sets, for these youngsters."

THEY'D look at us boys, all staring at Little Dan and listening all ears. We'd be lined up in uniform as Scouts, see, and we'd maybe lead the parade from the armory to the monument, playing our bugles. But at the monument, Little Dan got to play his silver bugle and the Last Post. It's a sad sort of piece; it always used to make my stomach feel sort of empty.

"He ain't playing for us," I heard one of the farmers say once, in a whisper behind us.

"No, not for us," agreed another farmer.

I looked at them; they'd come late and couldn't be with the returned soldier men all lined up in front of the monument. I thought they meant that Little Dan wasn't playing for them because they'd come late, and that he played only for the lined-up men.

"Remembering isn't hard," said Little Dan. "That's easy enough for those who care. But it's hard to remember the promises."

But that didn't make sense, because everybody could hear the bugle go ringing across the valley.

"It's disgusting," said one woman.

"Shhhhhh!" said the two farmers.

Little Dan was night man at the Savoy Hotel. The good hotel is called the Kensington House and is located right on the main street corner. But the Savoy was pretty old and kind of dingy and cheap, and being night man there wasn't much of a job. Some folks said it was all the job Little Dan could handle. He'd tried farming and he'd tried railroading and working at the wholesale and once he was taken on as a bread delivery man for a week, but he was no good at any of them jobs. So finally, because Moss Arnold had been in the last war and now owned the Savoy Hotel, Little Dan got the job there as night man. He had to sweep the floors and empty the spittoons and answer any night bell-rings and wake up anyone who wanted to catch the early morning mixed-train. It wasn't any bargain of a job, but Little Dan didn't need much to keep him busy. He was all alone, too, with no family and no one but himself to worry about. I guess he never spent any of his money on clothes, either, because usually he wore a raggy sort of brown jacket and an old black hat and baggy, shiny blue pants. For working, he wore bib overalls because the cleaning was a dirty sort of job.

"The authorities should stop him," some folks said. "He's spending every cent he makes on that stuff."

"Look at him sway, there. He's apt to fall down any minute."

But Little Dan never did fall down, there at the monument. He always played the Last Post right through, and it's a long piece and takes a lot of memory. We'd all listen, whether we liked him or no. Mostly in November it was dull and sometimes it snowed, but now and then the sun was shining and it made that silver bugle glow all bright and shiny.

Bandmaster Morton had a silver bugle too. He'd been given it by our fathers and mothers for being the leader of our Scout band, after we'd won the prize for the province. Of course, Bandmaster Morton didn't play much on the bugle, because he was really a drum man himself. But he knew all the pieces and he'd play them for us careful, to teach us right. Pieces like General Salute and Monkey on the Table and Home Fires and all the order-calls, Reveille and Fall-in and Cook-house Door. We met in the basement of the Farm Market building to do our practising and in summer time we'd sometimes march around the town streets in the evening and play our tunes while the drummers beat time for marching between pieces. We knew eighteen pieces all told, which is quite a lot for a boys' band. They always got us to lead Fair parades or 24th of May celebrations and the first of July picnic. We all had uniforms by this time and our bugles had fancy green and gold silk cords on them and the drums were decorated with green and gold pompons and we looked pretty good at our drills. Some of the boys whose mothers thought Scouts were being trained for soldiers sure used to feel bad, watching us go by and being out of it.

LITTLE Dan Ellsworth sometimes watched us go by, too. He'd come to the door of the Savoy Hotel, maybe with a broom still in his hands, and he'd watch us troop past and listen to us play. Sometimes, as an extra, Bandmaster Morton would let Cholly Cram play a solo piece. Cholly knew a lot of extra pieces which the band didn't know. The drummers would play the regular drum solo and then kind of fake in a tattoo background for Cholly's pieces. Cholly sure sounded good when he got to triple tonguing. Anybody could tell he was a better player than Little Dan, but somehow people always cried when Little

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EVERY time Remembrance Day comes round, some of us remember Little Dan. His full name was Dan Ellsworth, but even us kids called him Little Dan like everybody else. He was just a boy in size, even though he was a man in age and had fought in the war. It was his job to play the bugle at the monument on Remembrance Day. Back then, a few years after the last war, we still called it Armistice Day.

Little Dan's bugle was pure silver. His regiment had given it to him over in Flanders. Every Armistice Day he'd stand off a little to one side of the flag pole, facing the monument, his face bright pink and his eyes all watery. When the preaching was done and the soldiers had fired off their blank cartridges and everything was still, Little Dan would make his bugle ring out clear and sweet. The piece he played was called Last Post. It's a piece they play just at sundown, or when someone's dead.

"Look at him!" people would whisper. "Just look at him now!"

"He can't even stand straight."

"They shouldn't allow it—it's a disgrace!"

But the men standing in line there, the farmers and the town-men who'd been at the war, they'd stand at attention with their faces solemn and listen to Little Dan play his bugle. Us kids, we'd listen all ears, because we knew about bugle playing from our band and we knew that Little Dan sure could play. Some of the women, those that weren't whispering, would be crying and dabbing at their eyes. Us boys used to think that was because of the way Little Dan played his bugle; he'd make the music go searching away, off to the far hills.

"You'd think Reverend Randall wouldn't allow it," the talkers said. "It spoils the whole service."

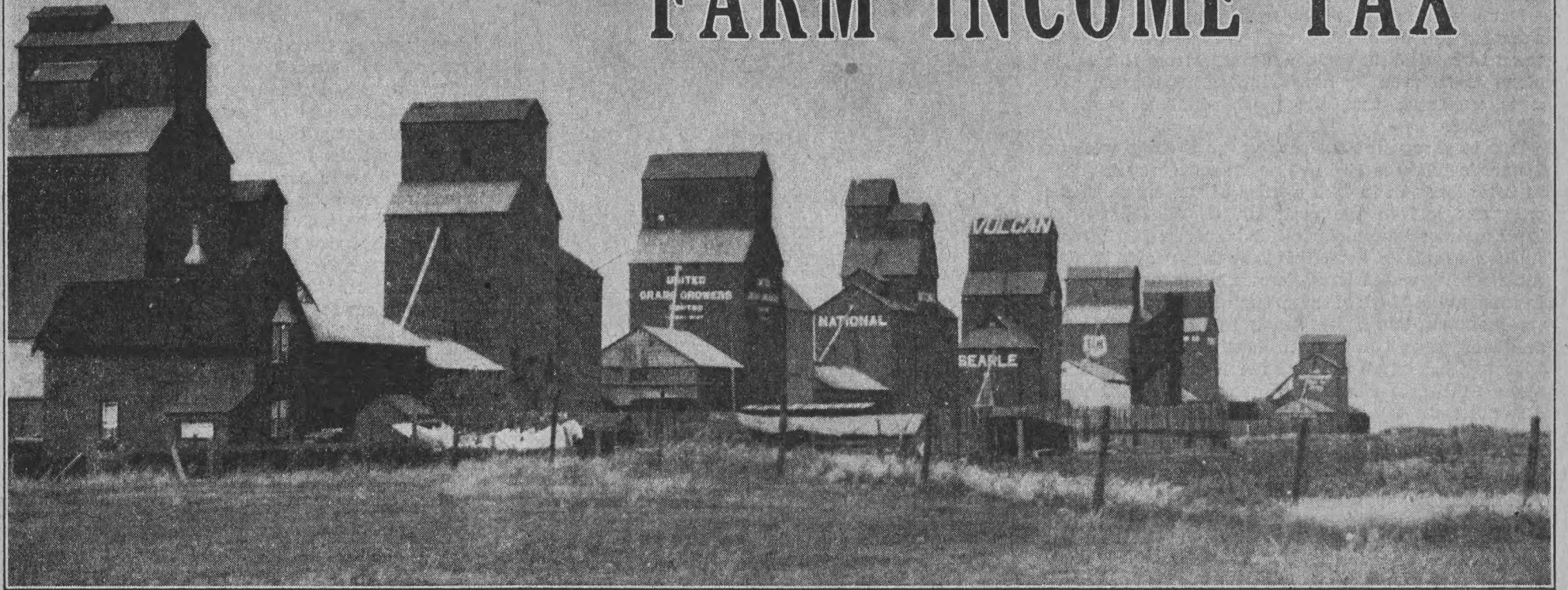
Then you could hear someone sob, in between the ring and echo of the silver bugle's notes. No question of it, next to Cholly of our band Little Dan was away the best bugler in all Valleyhill. Cholly was our patrol leader in our Boy Scout troop, and we had the best bugle band in our province and that's how we knew all about bugle music. Our band had twelve bugles in it, four with attachable crooks that made them into trumpets for two part pieces, and there were three snare drums and two kettle drums and a bass. Nowadays the Scouts do things quite a bit different, camping and learning woodcraft and good hobbies, but back there after the last war bugle bands were all the rage. A lot of mothers didn't like their kids to be Scouts, even.

"They're training them like soldiers," they said. "They're getting them ready for another war."

Some wouldn't let their boys belong, like Jim Farley's folks and Bobby Devlin's and Snooter Frew's. I had a terrible time coaxing my family to let me join. Us kids all wanted to belong to Bandmaster Morton's Scouts and get to play in the bugle band.



# FARM INCOME TAX



**A**MONG farmers, income tax is a subject of continually growing concern. More farmers are assessable than ever before. The aggregate tax paid by them is increasing at a geometrical ratio. Given a continuation of the present yields and price levels, the prospect is that agriculture will be called upon to pay even a greater share of the nation's income tax bill.

Other sections of the community have expressed the opinion that there has been a great laxity in the collection of income tax from farmers. Basing their case on statistics they point out that in 1941, the most recent record available which permits breakdown of tax receipts among occupational groups, Canadian salary and wage earners paid 3.6 per cent of their income as income tax. In the same year, farmers with an estimated net income of \$627 million paid \$1.5 million or one quarter of one per cent of their net income.

It is readily admitted that such a comparison gives a very distorted picture of what happened in that year in western Canada. The figure for salary and wage earners is high because it includes high income executives in the large eastern cities, and the figure for agriculture is low because of the large number of small eastern farms which are below the assessable tax income.

Statistics for a province like Saskatchewan give a more accurate picture and they have been presented in an able article in the *Financial Post* of September 14, by G. W. Auxier, K.C., an Edmonton barrister who was counsel for the Ives Royal Commission on Taxation. In that year Saskatchewan wage and salary earners received \$123 millions in the pay envelope. Out of this they paid \$2.5 millions income tax, or a little better than two per cent. In the same year Saskatchewan farmers took in about \$107 millions, out of which they paid \$433,000 income tax, or about 2/5 of one per cent.

Admittedly the picture has changed very considerably since 1941. Farm yields have been consistently good; price levels for agricultural products have advanced. Mr. Auxier estimates that a more aggressive tax collection drive will probably take \$15 million from farmers in Canada in 1945, a substantial share of it from the larger farms in the West. Even this, however, will not equalize the tax burden. Figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics indicate that for 1945 wages and salaries will account for about \$5 billion, and agriculture \$1.25 billion out of the total national income of \$11 billion. If the income tax yields \$756 million as anticipated, it would appear to some city folk as though agriculture has yet to contribute its fair quota.

No farmer need be told, however, that a statistical picture like the one above can not be accepted at face value. Figures on the national net farm income are open to extensive criticism. The *Country Guide* has repeatedly pointed out that the kind of farming which the westerner is forced by economic circumstances to pursue is steadily depleting his main asset—the soil—and he is just as much entitled to a considerable deduction on this account as the owners of gold mines and oil wells. Farm families

are larger, and because of the exemption for children, an equivalent net income can be expected to yield a lower tax when collected from farmers. There are relatively more single persons in the wage and salary classes than are to be found operating farms, illustrating once more that a statistical picture like the one above is over-simplified. Obviously there is not enough information now available to calculate what proportion of the nation's income tax bill should be paid by the farmer.

It is a human failing, from which the farmer does not pretend to be free, to dislike taxes of any kind, but farmers as a class have never been opposed to the view that a steeply graduated income tax is the fairest that can be levied. In the early controversies on this subject in Canada, farm organizations always supported it. There will be no dissent today to the principle that in order to keep the rate as low as possible, every section of the national economy should pay its fair share. One tax inspector has told the writer that most of the farm complaints about income tax assessments would disappear if every

**Much as the farmer dislikes the accounting he has to do to calculate his income tax, all the alternatives to that tax so far advanced have serious defects. One way out of the impasse is to devise some simpler way of reporting income.**



farmer could be assured that the full weight of the taxing authority descended equally on all his neighbors.

**I**N recent years farm organizations have petitioned the government on two main aspects of the income tax regulations. The Federation of Agriculture waited on the cabinet last February and requested (a) that because of the variations in farm income from year to year, the tax be not levied on any one year's income, but that it be averaged over a moving five-year period, and (b) that some consideration be given to the vexing "basic herd" problem of which more later.

The first request has brought forth fruit. Section 9, sub-section 5, of the Act has been amended to enable the farmer, if he wishes to do so, to average his income not over five, but over three years. To

illustrate: assuming that a farmer's financial year ends on December 31, he will, on or before April 30, 1949, have the right to sign a document that he wishes to take advantage of this provision. In that case his income for the years 1946, 1947, and 1948, will be averaged and the amount of tax estimated for each of the three years on the basis of that average income. The tax for the three years will be totalled. In the meantime, he will have paid taxes for 1946 and 1947. For 1948, therefore, he will only pay that amount which makes up the difference between the totals paid for 1946 and 1947 on one hand, and the aggregate taxes estimated for the three years on the other hand.

**T**HIS new amendment allows for a moving average. In calculating his tax for the next year, 1949, his assessment will be determined by taking his average income for 1947, 1948, and 1949; and likewise in each succeeding year, the earliest year used in making up the old average will be dropped and the new one added. It is generally believed that the farm spokesmen who asked for the five-year average will accept the new provision as a satisfactory compromise.

The basic herd problem may be simply stated in the following way. If a farmer or rancher, who has been paying his income tax on a cash basis, quits the business and holds a sale, his receipts for that year are tremendously increased by the conversion into cash of assets that he may have accumulated over years when income tax rates were negligible. These receipts are thereupon taxed at the current rate. It is contended that the proceeds of such sales are not income and should not be so taxed.

The attitude of the tax authorities is that the remedy lies in the farmers' own hands. Instead of reporting income on the cash basis, so runs the argument, farmers should calculate their income tax on the accrual basis which takes into consideration the values of opening and closing inventories, the revenues for the year, whether or not actually received in cash during the year, and the expenses of operation incurred for the year, whether or not actually paid during the year. If farmers will make a determined effort to calculate the value of inventories, the tax inspectors state, plus keeping an accurate record of income and expenditure, department officials can establish within an hour what a fair assessment should be.

This brings into the open the main objection farmers have to the income tax as now operated. In no business is accounting so complicated as in farming. Trained accountants working on farm books are often at a loss to differentiate between income and capital receipts; and expenditures are so interwoven in the business of running a farm that it is almost impossible to segregate them. The situation is further complicated by the fact that expenditures for the household and for the operation of the farm are almost indistinguishable.

As Mr. Auxier points out, this means that if a

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**R**ESCUE is the name of a newly developed variety of sawfly-resistant wheat. The variety is aptly named, since it is expected to prevent the loss of millions of dollars through wheat destruction by sawflies, insect pest No. 1 in western Canada. In so doing it will help to alleviate the world's critical shortage of food and so virtually rescue countless humans from the frightfulness of starvation.

Damage from the wheat stem sawfly has reached alarming proportions in recent years. In the year of worst infestation in Canada, damage from this cause alone is believed to have reached \$50,000,000, and it is estimated that the yearly damage averages \$20,000,000.

Due to ravages of the sawfly, the average western farmer lost \$300 to \$400 in 1944. In some crop districts in Saskatchewan in 1943 a third of the entire wheat crop was lost to the pest. Dr. C. W. Farstad of the Dominion Entomological Laboratory, Lethbridge, Alberta, estimated early this year that nearly half of Alberta's 1946 wheat acreage would be menaced by sawfly infestation. Much of the spring wheat area in northern Montana, too, is now sawfly infested. The largest and most severe area is in northeastern Montana, with another small area in north central Montana and a third area in the western part of the triangle.

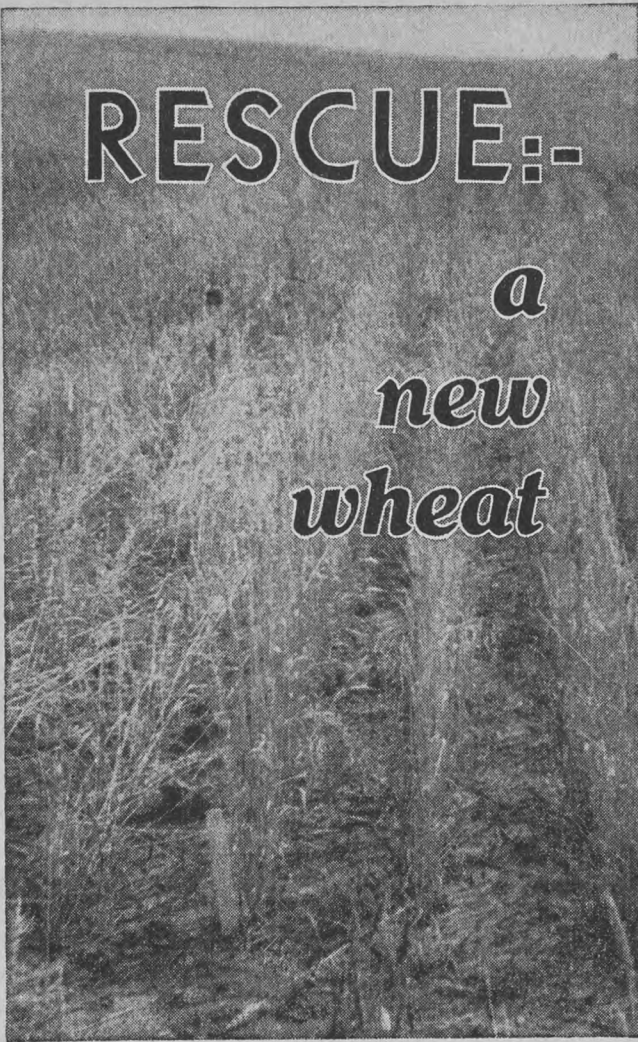
Sawflies are native to the prairies, having laid their eggs in the hollow stems of grasses long before the advent of farming and wheat growing. Now they lay their eggs in the hollow stems of wheat when the grain is in the boot stage.

The adult fly resembles a flying ant, but it has black and yellow markings on its body. For one week in the year, usually from about the middle of June to the middle of July, it can be seen on the wheat stems or flying low over the ground. The eggs hatch quickly inside the wheat stems and the grubs feed on wheat tissue, thus causing some damage by reducing the yield and bushel weight of wheat. Though several eggs may be laid in one stem, the first grub hatched devours the others and migrates to the base, girdling the stem at ground level as the plant nears maturity. The wheat stem, broken off by the wind or the weight of the head, falls to the ground—and this constitutes the principal loss. It is almost impossible economically to save a crop knocked down in this way. The larvae "hole up" in the stem below the surface of the soil during the winter and pupate in the spring. Emergence of the fly depends on weather conditions—they usually emerge when the wheat is most vulnerable to attack. The emergence was extremely late in 1945, which was also a late year for crops.

Sawflies were first discovered attacking wheat in Canada in 1895 at Souris, Manitoba, and, in the early days, infestation was pretty well confined to Manitoba and eastern Saskatchewan. They increased quickly and caused some damage, but the degree of damage never became excessive, because of stem rust—sawflies don't mature in wheat stems severely affected by stem rust. In the wheat area Durum wheat increased owing to its sawfly-resistance. Durums are not acceptable for general distribution, however, since they are not adapted to dry areas. They are macaroni wheats, not of particularly good quality when grown in such areas, and the market for them is limited.

**S**AWFLIES next advanced westward and about 1926 they were quite well distributed throughout the open plains of Saskatchewan and Alberta. It was in 1927 that the first really severe damage occurred over a wide area. Before that time, however, entomologists had been studying the insect and methods of controlling it, the first work of any consequence in this regard having been done in Manitoba by Dr. Norman Criddle. H. L. Seamans, Lethbridge, studied the effect of weather on the damage done. Dr. C. W. Farstad and Chester Smith, Lethbridge, did considerable work in importing parasites, insects which attack the sawflies and reduce their numbers. Dr. Farstad is in charge of sawfly investigation for the Dominion Department of Agriculture and is the nominal head of sawfly work in the infested area. Effectiveness of the parasite in sawfly control failed to become estab-

# RESCUE:- a new wheat



By M. M. GRIMSEN



Top—Left: Non-resistant damaged crop. Right: Resistant stems stand up.

Centre—A. W. Platt examines Rescue sown in California to save a year.

Bottom—Rescue is not of particularly good market quality, but will save growers millions until a better variety is bred.



The new sawfly variety now being distributed for increase is a plant breeders' temporary repair job. Good enough to save heavy annual loss while better quality varieties are sought and found.

lished, however. Certain native parasites reduced sawfly numbers to a considerable extent in certain areas, but this was not a reliable method of control, because the natural increase of parasites depended on favorable weather conditions at the right time—and such weather conditions didn't occur very often.

In recent years, Dr. Farstad has done much work in control methods of delayed wheat seeding, surrounding fields with trap strips—early sown strips of wheat in which sawflies can lay their eggs, followed by early harvesting of the traps, to destroy the millions of grubs in it. Sowing of coarse grains, which are immune to sawflies, was also recommended.

Cultural methods of control have not proven entirely satisfactory, because such methods require the full co-operation of the whole community to be wholly effective—and complete co-operation can never be achieved voluntarily. One man in the centre of a block who refuses to practice a control method can be responsible for infecting all the neighboring fields. Also, one of the chief reasons for difficulty in the cultural control program is that it requires some sacrifice of land. Though of considerable help in sawfly control, cultural methods could never be considered a satisfactory solution to the sawfly problem. The real solution appeared to be the development of a wheat resistant to the insect; and this became the objective of arduous work.

**S**ERIOUS sawfly damage occurred in 1926 at the Swift Current Experimental Station in southwestern Saskatchewan. The cerealist there, H. J. Kemp, observed that certain varieties of wheat with solid stems were not being damaged by the sawfly. From Mr. Kemp's observations a breeding program was begun, to produce new varieties resistant to the pest. Solid-stemmed wheat from all parts of the world was imported and tested for sawfly reaction by Mr. Kemp, in co-operation with Dr. Farstad.

This work extended to 1936 and certain solid-stemmed wheats from New Zealand were found to possess a good deal of sawfly resistance. When the sawfly egg is deposited in solid-stemmed wheat, the young grub has difficulty in obtaining food, as the pith cells seem to contain little nourishment and the grub also encounters so much difficulty in migrating to the base of the stem that in almost all cases it dies on the way.

Arnold W. Platt, a Master of Science from the University of Alberta, took charge of the work in 1937 and started a breeding program to propagate wheats for sawfly resistance. He used New Zealand wheats (which originally came from Portugal), crossing them with the new rust-resistant wheats—Apex, Renown and Thatcher. Crossing consists merely of taking the pollen (male element) from one variety and placing it on the stigma (female element) of the other. In this manner about 300 seeds were produced which were sown individually. All the plants produced were alike and had certain characteristics of one parent and certain of the other. The seeds from these plants, about 30,000, were sown individually and their progeny

presented a veritable maze of different types. Some resembled one parent, some were more like the other, and all possible combinations of intermediate types were produced.

At this stage a selection was made of plants having resistance to sawflies and disease, and appearing to have other desirable characteristics. The following year seed from each selected plant was grown in a short row. The plants in this row continued, in most cases, to "break up"—some of the plants were resistant to rust, others susceptible, some were awned, others awnless, and so on.

Again desirable plants were selected  
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# The Wild Bunch

By Ernest Haycox

Illustrated by  
CLARENCE TILLENIUS

## (Conclusion)

GOODNIGHT heard the sound of distant firing and stopped at once. He sat still in the saddle, listening to the full-out vigor of the shooting. The girl had been ahead of him and now turned and waited in silence beside him. The sound was straight to the north.

"That Roselle direction?"

"Yes."

"How many men did Tower have with him?"

"Ten or twelve."

"That's not enough against Bill. You know these trails. Lead off. We'll go there."

She didn't say anything. She struck into the darkness, going north, and came to a meadow over which they passed. The trail thereafter wound dog-leg fashion through the timber with no light anywhere. It dropped into a shallow draw, crossed a creek, and went up the bare side of a hill. On top of the hill, half an hour later, he saw the top of Roselle's houses and one lantern bobbing along the road. It took another ten minutes to come up against the back side of Roselle. He stopped here, hearing no more gunfire. "Over with, one way or another. I'll ease up and see."

"Frank," she said, softly, "there's no need to bother. Ned had enough to handle the wild bunch."

"A dozen's not enough."

"Might have been more than that," she said and went ahead of him.

Her assurance puzzled him, and her lack of honesty with him seemed strange. He went with her, rounding the corner of the saloon at the same time the man with the lantern swung up. It was Ned Tower. Presently somebody lighted the lamps in the saloon, that glow springing out of the door. Ned Tower looked taciturnly at Virginia. "You ought to have been careful comin' in here."

"When the shooting stopped," she said, "I knew the trouble was over."

"So it was," he agreed, "But you shouldn't of been certain as to who was doin' the shootin' and who came out on top."

"You had enough men to do it, Ned."

"So we did," he said. "But we never got the chance."

"Speak so I can understand you," she said impatiently.

"We been coolin' our heels in the brush, listenin' to all this. It wasn't us that did any fightin'."

"Then who was it?"

"Harry Ide," said Ned Tower. "I never saw anything like it, and I hope I never do again. We were in the brush, about ready to move in, when Ide hit town. He must of been scoutin' these hills for a week. He must of had a hell of a crew on Bill's trail." Ned Tower paused and rubbed his chin. He added, dry and glum: "He did the job."

Virginia Overman sat thoroughly still, looking down upon Ned Tower. The lantern light and the glow from the saloon played upon her so that Goodnight, turning his attention to her, noticed the strictness of her face. She was hard as iron at the moment yet her voice came out quite small, quite uncertain: "Bill."

Tower shook his head. "He got away."

GOODNIGHT watched her features with a growing alertness. She let her lips loosen, she drew a breath, and then she became aware of his glance and made an effort to hide her feelings. Her whole frame of mind at the moment was odd to him; it left him uneasy and troubled.

Tower said: "But he's had his teeth pulled. The wild bunch is busted up. You got nothin' to fear from Boston Bill any more."

"No," she murmured. "I see that."

"Should please you," said Tower,

his black, brilliant eyes fastened to her.

"It does," she answered, cold and distant.

"You show your pleasure in a damned queer fashion."

"Perhaps."

The barkeep came out of the door and stood in the night. His face was round and dismal and grey. He ran a hand over his face, squeezing out the oil film shining on his skin. He said in a groggy voice: "I could of warned him. I knew it when the little fellow came in a for a drink. I knew the little fellow. I knew he was Ide's man. But that's what happens when a man won't pay his bills. I never lifted a hand. Awful close night. No wind, no air."

Virginia said, "I thought it was chilly," and looked at him. Then she got down from the saddle and moved toward the saloon's door. Tower said in a sharp voice, "Don't go in there," and the barkeep reached out with his arm to bar her way. She knocked his arm aside with a sudden willful gesture and opened the door.



She stopped on the threshold and looked in a moment. She turned and came back to the horse, and mounted. She stared at the ground, her mouth closing into an unpleasant line.

Tower said irritably: "Couldn't you take my word for it?" He shook his head. "That Harry Ide. It was a massacre and it will stink up the mountain for fifty years."

"I'm thinking about him," she said. "He's probably camping on Sun now with his outfit."

"I wouldn't worry about Harry Ide," said Tower.

"Why not?" she asked. "What's to stop him?"

Ned Tower turned about and walked thirty feet down the street, his lantern bobbing. He halted and he said, "This is what stopped him."

Virginia and Goodnight rode forward. Ned Tower turned the lantern slightly so that the yellow beams slanted downward upon the man lying in the dust, face upward, his legs spraddled and his hat rolled away. This was Harry Ide, his black hair stained by dust, his face bleached of its color. One little spot of black-red stood against his shirt to indicate what had killed him. "I got an idea," said Tower, "he was hit by one of his own men, unbeknownst."

"Which way," asked Goodnight, now thinking of something else, "did the rest of his outfit ride?"

"Back toward Sherman City."

"Where'd Bill's men ride?"

Tower gave him a grey look. "Them that got out of this slaughter house probably scattered any direction."



They walked—they didn't ride. Ide killed all their horses first thing to pin them down."

"Kind of tough," said Goodnight.

"Tough enough," said Tower.

A MAN moved out of an alley into the lantern light. It was Bob Carruth with a day's whiskers on his stout face, turned tough and cranky by steady riding. He stared at Virginia in a way that irritated Goodnight. It was a plain show of malice, of stiff and settled dislike. His voice also echoed it.

"Well, Virginia," he said, "you got it all your way. Bill won't be big enough to bother you no more and

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He sat down on the steps and rolled himself a cigarette. She was behind him.



## THE Country GUIDE

with which is Incorporated

THE NOR'-WEST FARMER and FARM AND HOME.

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R. S. LAW, President

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### That Milk Subsidy

When the government removed the subsidy on fluid milk city folk found out what farmers have known all along: The money paid out was not a bonus to producers but a subsidy to consumers. They were getting their milk below cost. When the government quit helping them pay their milk bills they raised a row. Down in Ontario they raised it to such purpose that a Royal Commission was appointed to investigate the whole business from cow to consumer. The Commission will have to get up pretty early if it wants to see the morning milking done.

One of the mysteries the Commission should explore is why the producer gets less than half the consumers' milk money. He raises a heifer to maturity, feeds her, lodges her, provides her with chambermaid service, milks her, cools the milk, delivers it to the station every morning, pays the express charges on it to the city and gets less for his work and outlay than the milk company gets in the next few hours for pasteurizing and bottling it and delivering it about town.

The subsidy was a part of the government's price control policy. As with most farm products, the price of milk had not fully recovered from depression levels when the war broke out. In its endeavor to stabilize living costs and prevent inflation, various subsidies were granted to consumers and this was one of them. The money was raised by borrowing and taxation. But the people want to see the country restored as rapidly as possible to a peace time economy, in which government borrowing has ceased and taxation has been reduced. Subsidies to consumers are no part of such a normal economy. They will be removed and the removal will not be painless. Whether or not the removal of the milk subsidy was well timed is a question, but the hullabaloo that has been raised about it is just one of the walls that will be heard as the transition to a normal economy progresses and other subsidies are discontinued.

### The Strike Epidemic

The epidemic of strikes seems to have passed the peak and the country is convalescent after the worst outbreak of labor trouble in its history. Estimates of the man hours lost run into such astronomical figures that they cease to have a meaning. On the whole, the strikers won, gaining about two-thirds of their original demands. It will take years in some cases, however, for the increase in wages to make up for the income lost by the stoppage. That is the way things frequently work out when labor disputes are settled by the arbitrament of the strike. There is the further fact that labor is the biggest item in living costs, and that when wages go up the cost of living follows suit. It is doubtful if, in the end, the relative position of labor will be much better than it was.

The strikes were, in reality, an endeavor to maintain the relative position of labor with, of course, some improvements such as holidays with pay, which has long been a recognized principle with the salaried classes. The Country Guide does not join in the sweeping denunciations of organized labor and all its works. If

labor men do not look after their own interests no one else is going to do it for them. It recognizes that there are extremists among them and that the extremists sometimes have too much their own way, but that is a condition which only labor can correct. On the whole, Canadian labor is pretty sane and sound. The worker is worthy of his hire and his hire should be enough to provide him with a proper home, enable him to raise and educate his family, enjoy a radio, a car and other amenities and to look forward to an old age free from poverty. But when some labor men start talking about the 36 or the 30-hour week, that is a horse of another color. The average farmer would be glad to settle for an eight-hour day. Too many of them now have nothing much better than an eight hour night.

### Retreat from Port Hope

J. M. Macdonnell, M.P., chief opposition financial critic, accuses the Mackenzie King government of being socialistic. That would be news to a long line of socialists, living and dead, from Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels to M. J. Coldwell and Tommy Douglas. Whatever criticism can be logically aimed at the present federal government, the charge of being socialistic sheds off it like water off a canvassback. If the let-time-solve-it, laissez-faire Mackenzie King is a socialist, in any aspect of his political record or outlook, no reactionary capitalist need lose any sleep over socialism.

Mr. Macdonnell, who would be finance minister in any government which Mr. Bracken had the responsibility of forming, seems to have backslidden considerably since entering politics. He was a Port Hoper, one of those ardent Conservatives who met at the Ontario lakeside town in 1942 and decided that the party had been thinking and talking too much about its glorious past and not enough about its doubtful future. They reasoned that if the party was to be removed from the doubtful column, Sir John A. and Cartier should be let rest in their graves

and on their laurels. Raising their eyes from those honored tombs to the horizon, they produced a forward-looking manifesto which, if it means anything, means a system of controlled capitalism. It was adopted, in principle, by the Winnipeg convention in December of that year. Mr. Macdonnell, a very successful business man, forsook business to devote his life to the public service of Canada, a thoroughly commendable thing to do. Now he talks as if he would have all controls swept away and accuses the government of socialism because it hangs on to war controls, or lets them hang on to it. He has retreated a long way from the Port Hope round table and the Winnipeg convention.

### Straws in the Wind

The loss of the Portage la Prairie seat to the Progressive Conservatives is taken as a condemnation of the government's marketing policies. But other considerations emerge from the recent by-elections. One is that in each of them the victor polled a minority of the votes cast. In Parkdale he got 35 per cent and in Portage 40 per cent. What is needed, as this journal has long contended, is the transferable vote in single member constituencies. An elected member would then be assured that he is a choice of a majority of the voters, though with some he might be a second choice. The other consideration is that the C.C.F. showed impressive gains over 1945 in the percentage of votes polled. Taking the two constituencies together, 34,876 votes were cast against 39,040 in the last general election. Of these the Progressive Conservatives polled approximately 39 per cent in 1935 and 36½ per cent in 1946, a decrease of 2½ per cent. For the Liberals the figures were 39½ and 33½ per cent respectively, a decrease of six per cent. The C.C.F., on the other hand, pulled up from 16½ to 26½ per cent, an increase of 10 per cent. If by-elections are political straws in the wind, that may be some indication of the direction in which the wind is veering.



"Why can't those guys come to some agreement?"



### Less Tough Talk

Without agreeing with everything that Henry Wallace said about the Peace Conference and the Big Four, it is as plain as a pikestaff that being tough with Russia has failed to get things moving in the right direction. The Wallace episode had barely begun to cool off when Anthony Eden called for more diplomacy and less tough talk at Paris. Mr. Eden's statement was timed to let Russia and the world know that in Britain as well as in the United States there are those who believe that the time has arrived for a new approach in the Big Four's dealings with one another. Marshal Stalin's somewhat conciliatory statement, which immediately followed the Wallace episode and Eden's plea, may indicate that a new approach would be fruitful.

The salvaging of the peace is going to take time. It may take longer than it did to win the war. That in itself, however, need cause no great concern. The world is confronted with an entirely new condition. It is divided on ideological grounds, and the two ideologies, democracy and communistic totalitarianism, must exist together in one world. It is humanly impossible to produce a working arrangement for such co-existence overnight. The process is not being shortened by the Get Tough With Russia policy, which has resulted only in acrimonious controversy.

### Freight Rates

There will be a mark-up in prices right across the board if the application of the railways for a 30 per cent increase in freight rates is granted. There will also be a mark-down for everything except wheat that the western farmer has to sell. The railway companies' case, as put before the Board of Transport Commissioners, is this: For 1946, increased expenditures, above what they would be if 1939 wage and price levels still prevailed, will be \$79,200,000 for wages and \$52,800,000 for materials. This does not take into consideration the ten-cent an hour increase recently granted to railway workers by the National War Labor Board, which will take an additional \$40 million a year. Before the latter increase, the railways claim, the average increase in wage rates had been 27½ per cent since 1939, while the increase in the price of materials ranges all the way from 20 per cent on steel to 62 per cent on fuel and 94 per cent on ties.

Rates on wheat and flour from western points to the head of the lakes are not included in the application. They come under the Crow's Nest Agreement and are not within the jurisdiction of the Board, but of parliament itself. But everything else which the farmer sells or buys would be upped by the increase. On either count he is at the end of a long haul and whether the stuff comes or goes he pays the shot. The prairie farmer would be worse hit by the increase than any other class or group in the Dominion.

But the increase has not yet been granted. There will be hearings before the Board of Transport which will probably last throughout the winter. Those who oppose the increase will get a hearing and the arguments against, as well as for it, will be put on record. It is pertinent to quote here the statement of the National War Labor Board, in granting the ten-cent an hour increase to railway employees, that the companies are financially able to pay the increase, for the present at least. Their gross earnings have doubled since 1939. Lurking in the background is the question of the nation-wide duplication of services by the two transcontinental companies and what economies could be effected by merging them into one state-owned system.

### Less Than Justice

The mortality rate among top ranking Fascists and Nazis has been pretty high but not quite high enough. None of them died on the field of battle. Their way out has been by execution, or suicide to escape execution. A lot of world opinion is behind the Russian claim that the whole kit and caboodle of the men on trial at Nuremberg

should have been sentenced to the gallows. Nazism is indivisible. Hess was designated by Hitler himself as Nazi No. 3 and as his own successor after Goering. Schacht was the architect of Nazi finance. He invented the sweeping schemes of international grand larceny without which the Nazi war machine could not have been built. Von Papen, once known as Satan in a Top Hat, engineered the coup which made Hitler chancellor in 1933 and started the 12 years of Nazi rule which brought death to 30,000,000 people.

The claim that the Nuremberg trial was illegal because international laws against war crimes did not exist until after the atrocities were committed need not sit heavily on the conscience of the nations. The Treaty of Versailles created

a precedent when it prescribed the trial and punishment of World War I criminals. The German courts cynically made a fiasco of the trials, but that does not invalidate the precedent. Germany signed the Kellogg Pact, which outlawed war as an instrument of national policy. War was the basic national policy of Nazism. It has also been pointed out that the great body of common law in English speaking countries is based on the decisions of magistrates and judges who had no written code to guide them. The claim of illegality is baseless. If there is cause for worry it is that so many of the butchers, whose guilt is no different from that of those who were hanged, remain unpunished, and especially that such arch villains as Hess, Schacht and Von Papen escaped the noose.

## Under the PEACE TOWER

**N**OW that the Liberals have lost three by-elections in a row, everybody's wondering what Mr. King is going to do next. Probably Mr. King is too. People here in Ottawa these days are making jokes, some of them not printable, about Mr. King and the three P's—Pontiac, Parkdale and Portage. But this is no joke to Mr. King, who now faces the largest opposition in the House of Commons that has opposed him since 1926.

This triple jolt has had a profound effect on Parliament Hill. It has for instance, scotched any talk about cabinet reform. It has ended guessing as to who would be elevated to the Senate. More than that, it has put the quietus on any spectacular legislation. Pussyfoot will be the phrase for King's progress from now on.

I have tried to look over the whole political scene, from Sydney to Skeena, just to see if there is not anything in the way of a theme newer and fresher than the by-elections. I have come to the conclusion that said by-elections are an important milestone in Canada's history. I am beginning to wonder if they should not be filed away under The Beginning-of-the-End Department. As one who has cut a political eye tooth or two, I am wondering if this isn't something like the famous Drummondville-Arthabaska election back in 1910, when an unknown, Arthur Gilbert, running under the new Nationalist banner, beat the unbeatable Laurier government. Or is it like the spring of 1930, a pre-view of the Bennett smash victory that same July? To get down to cases, does this three-to-nothing skunking that Mr. King's taken, mean the long reign of the Liberal regime is over? Is this really the Gotterdammerung, the twilight of the gods?

**N**OW whether it is or whether it isn't, the plain fact is that Mr. King is going to have a tough time getting through his next session of parliament. Certainly, John Bracken is feeling his oats these days, after that exciting win in Portage. Nor is M. J. Coldwell going round Parliament Hill these days with any less bouncy step; he too feels that things will be better before they are worse. Even Solon Low, after his candidate Raoul Caouette's win in Pontiac, is feeling cocky.

It can be seen that King faces a tough parliament. The Opposition, scenting the kill, will spare the Old Man nothing. King, riding herd on the House when he was top man, can't expect the boys to give him too easy a time. After all, this is politics, not patty-cake.

King can therefore stagger through the session somehow, but it WILL be staggering. After this session, then what? I hate to seem to be asking questions without trying to answer them, but let me suggest one course of conduct. He can, he feels (here I am just guessing), win an election if he gets the single

transferable vote.

This legislation he should be able to slip through the house, because the C.C.F. are supposed to favor it, and if memory doesn't do me a dirty trick, it was in vogue when John Bracken was Premier of Manitoba. Therefore, both leaders must eat their words and repudiate their past, or else pass this legislation. The chances are that, even with uniform opposition, the Prime Minister could squeak through with the single transferable vote.

**Y**OU might then say, what good is this, if King does not run? True enough, he said he would never face a general election again. But he could be "persuaded" to run once more, and the "persuasion" might require something less than herculean labor if he had an apparently fool-proof victory formula in the transferable vote. After all, he would reason, in the last analysis, more people would vote Liberal than for any other party. Again, a Progressive Conservative on the second choice would favor a Liberal over a C.C.F'er. Once more, a C.C.F'er would favor a Liberal over a Conservative, when he marked his second choice. One way and another, the Liberals feel that the transferable vote is the bandwagon to jump aboard, and which will ride them back into power again.

I have talked to Liberals who are sure that if a crisis develops this winter, as it is almost sure to, that King will whip through the transferable vote, and then be "talked into" running again.

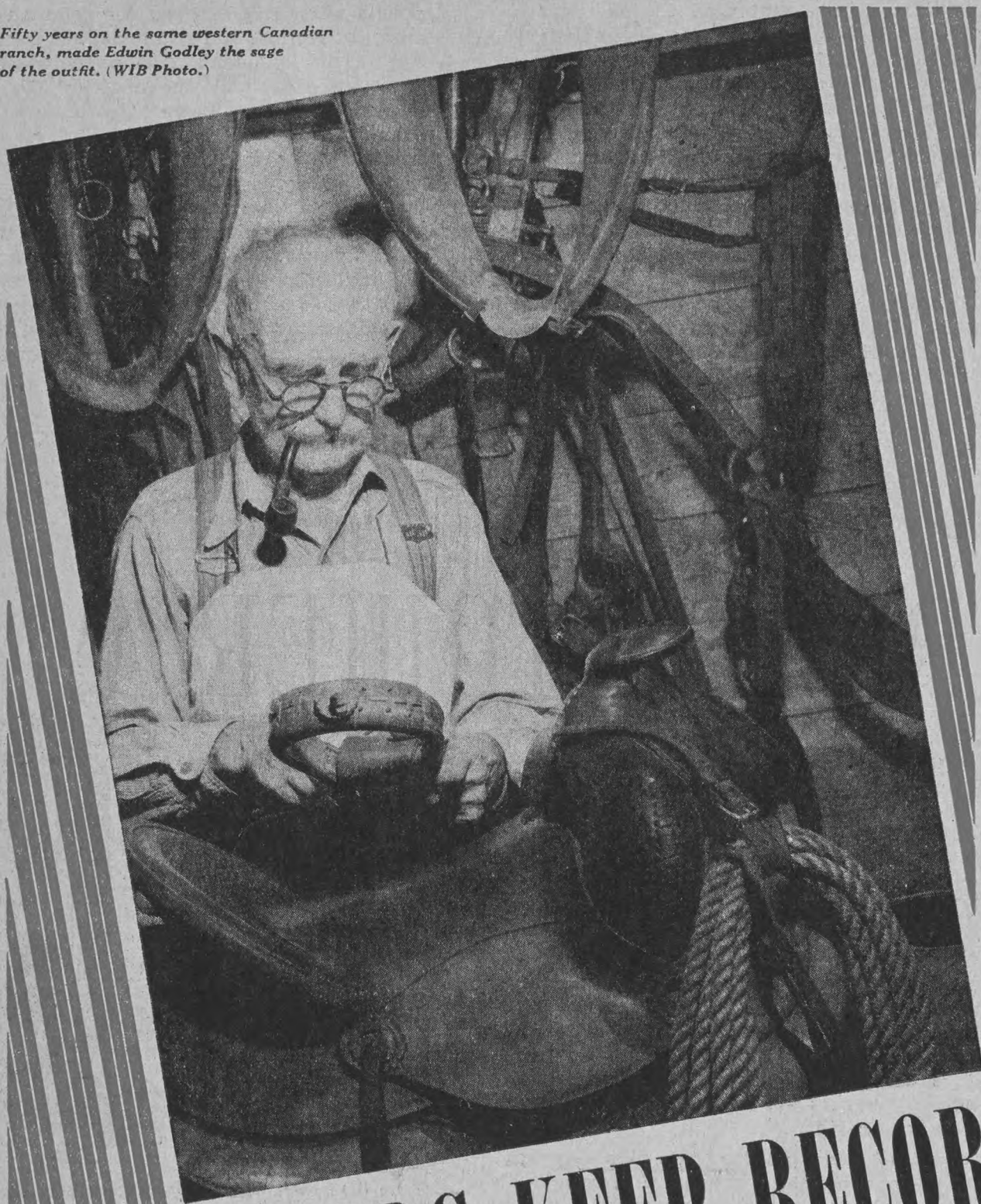
To fight through three more sessions with majorities of one and two—if he had even such slim majorities two or three years from now—would be to King unthinkable, impossible. Even at the zenith of his physical power, in 1926, one session was enough. Too much. The Old Man has only one chassis, and old as it is, he hopes to make it do for a while. To try and struggle till 1950 through the agony of an evenly divided house is the short cut to the Long Sleep.

The best guessing here on The Hill then is, that we'll see MacKenzie King try it again on a new kind of ballot. Meanwhile, this coming session will be the hottest in 20 years.





Fifty years on the same western Canadian ranch, made Edwin Godley the sage of the outfit. (WIB Photo.)



# IF FARMERS KEEP RECORDS TOGETHER

By

H. B. SOMMERFELD

**I**NDUSTRY, thrift and true family co-operation in all aspects of farm life are important for the most successful operation of the individual farm. The boy and girl raised on a soundly managed farm are indeed fortunate. They have lived in an atmosphere of industry, thrift, resourcefulness, health and experience, which it is impossible to duplicate in an urban environment.

It is quite reasonable to consider farming not only as an art, but as a science, a business and a way of living. In the pursuit of farming as an art, the farmer requires to use all his resourcefulness, dexterity and efficiency in the application of his skill to the performance of the daily work of the farm.

Farming may well be regarded, also, as a science, not only because it is possible to evolve general principles and laws peculiar to the economics of farm production, but also because it is possible to predict with reasonable accuracy, by means of the collection and analysis of information obtained from a large number of farms operated under similar conditions, what will happen when soil of a particular type is treated in a specific manner; or when crops of specified kinds are grown under controlled conditions; or when normally healthy animals usually grown on the farm, are handled and fed in a certain way. Successful farming is based on knowledge of how crops and animals will behave if handled and fed in a particular manner.

Farming is a business, too, because the farmer, either tenant or owner, must be personally responsible for the management of his land, his capital and his labor. To utilize these resources to the best ad-

vantage, he must apply business principles to the organization and management of his farm.

But farming is more than an art, a science and a business. It is also a way of living. The farmer's wife is as indispensable to the farm business as she is to her family. Family co-operation is important. Home features should be comfortable and attractive, but for business reasons, should be kept in line with the productive capacity of the farm.

## Farming is Business

**T**HIS article is about farming as a business—not only because dollars and cents are important for the satisfactions they can buy, but because they are a measure of the value of farming as a way of life. They are a means of translating skill and knowledge into happiness and contentment; and a means of exchanging our knowledge of farming as a science, for education, comfort, conveniences and healthful surroundings. Farming as a business creates the necessity for farm management, which is a very old profession. Good farm management is to know why, when and how to organize plant production with animal production, engineering and related sciences, in a sound, orderly business pattern, from which the greatest long-time net returns are secured from a given farm.

Most farmers find keeping books a very onerous business. This article shows how to remove some of the headaches and increase returns, improve yields and build a better community.

Someone once said that wisdom was to know what to do, skill was to know how to do it, and that virtue was to do it. All three are equally important in successful farm management. Sound principles of farm management must be applied to be made effective. A successful job of farming can only be achieved if both labor and capital are applied in a timely fashion and if the manager of the farm is thorough.

## Crop Production is the Foundation

**G**RAIN production in the prairie provinces is still a major enterprise. The advent of disease-resistant varieties of grain, especially rust-resistant varieties of wheat, has already returned millions of dollars to western farms at comparatively low cost to the people of Canada. The investment by the State, in agricultural research, has returned, and will continue to return handsome dividends. In commercial grain production, high yields per acre under average farm conditions, are associated with high labor-income per farm. High yield per acre, however, is not an end in itself, but must be combined with low costs of production, under conditions which, over a long period of years, will maintain soil fertility.

Mechanization also makes for low-cost grain production, if the farm is large enough to support the capital cost of equipment. Where the farm is not large enough, perhaps co-operation in the use of farm equipment will help to secure both high yields and low production costs, without undue capital overhead. To be a successful farm manager, the farmer must co-operate with himself as a man with the "know-how" and also bring into play his knowledge of farm science. Perhaps commercial fertilizers will be called for, since the use of these is on the increase and is proving profitable to many users. Perhaps the new selective weed sprays will help to increase yields and reduce costs per bushel, or per acre. Almost certainly a well balanced crop rotation will be called for, including legumes and grasses. Unfortunately, the short-time advantage of more or less continuous grain cropping, with summerfallow, has blinded many western farmers to the long-time advantage of crop rotations, including the soil-building crops.

Such crops, however, must in general be marketed through livestock and, unfortunately the climate of

western Canada, especially in large grain producing areas, is relatively unfavorable. The pasture season, too, is short; and our long winters, notably in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, require long periods of confinement and housing. Under these conditions successful and profitable livestock production is not easy. The farmer must adapt his methods to the conditions imposed by Nature. It is still true, however, that large-scale livestock production may be successful for those who know how and have the skill and willingness to really apply themselves intensively to it.

## Livestock Marketing Agency

**D**URING the period 1938-1943, the relation of livestock prices to feed costs was unusually favorable, and livestock prices are still

sufficiently satisfactory in relation to the cost of feed, to warrant efficient farmers, where facilities and equipment permit, in marketing all, or at least a major portion of their feed crops, through livestock. There are still plenty of opportunities for the continuation and expansion of livestock production in order to provide a profitable home market for otherwise unused land, labor and capital. Beyond this point, however, the expansion of livestock production requires careful consideration (Turn to page 41)



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and FRIDAYS  
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and FRIDAYS  
GRANDE PRAIRIE - 1050 ON YOUR DIAL

## SASKATCHEWAN

**CKRM** MON. - WED. 7:45 P.M.  
and THURSDAYS  
REGINA - 980 ON YOUR DIAL

**CJGX** MON. - THUR. 8:30 P.M.  
and FRIDAYS (CST)  
YORKTON - 1460 ON YOUR DIAL

**CKBI** MON. - WED. 10:15 P.M.  
and FRIDAYS  
PRINCE ALBERT - 900 ON YOUR DIAL

## MANITOBA

**CJOB** MON. - WED. 8:30 P.M.  
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# TIME to THINK



**F. S. Grisdale**

**F.** S. GRISDALE, one-time Principal of Olds School of Agriculture, afterwards Minister of Agriculture in Alberta and since January, 1942, associated with the Wartime Prices and Trade Board, Ottawa (since January, 1943, in the capacity of Deputy Foods Co-ordinator and Administrator of Meat and Meat Products), has been appointed Foods Co-ordinator to succeed K. W. Taylor. Mr. Taylor, it is reported, will relieve Donald Gordon, Chairman of the Board, of some of his responsibilities, so that Mr. Gordon can devote more time to general policy.

Mr. Gordon and his associates have plenty of cause to think about general policy. Pouncing on an unsuspecting national economy in October, 1941, and pinning it down with price controls, ceilings, wage stabilization, consumer's subsidies and other regulatory devices, in order that an unprecedented war might be fought more efficiently, was one thing. Canadians were satisfied and had reason to be. People of other countries were envious, and they also had reason to be. But releasing the national economy to the free play of economic forces, however, is another proposition, especially since the economy has swollen and gained tremendously in strength in the interim. National income has doubled. Unspent money is burning holes in pockets everywhere. Trade, both domestic and export, is booming. Goods are scarce. Unemployment is reduced to a minimum. People are becoming restive under restrictions and politicians are taking advantage of it. Meanwhile, the bigger, lustier, uncontrollable economy of the United States has burst most of its wartime bonds, and threatens to engulf Canada in its rampagous antics. Already we in Canada have suffered from an infection of costly strikes which have retarded production of essential goods and kept people homeless, restive and cranky. Result: Costs have risen and more strikes are threatened, to catch up with the cost of living.

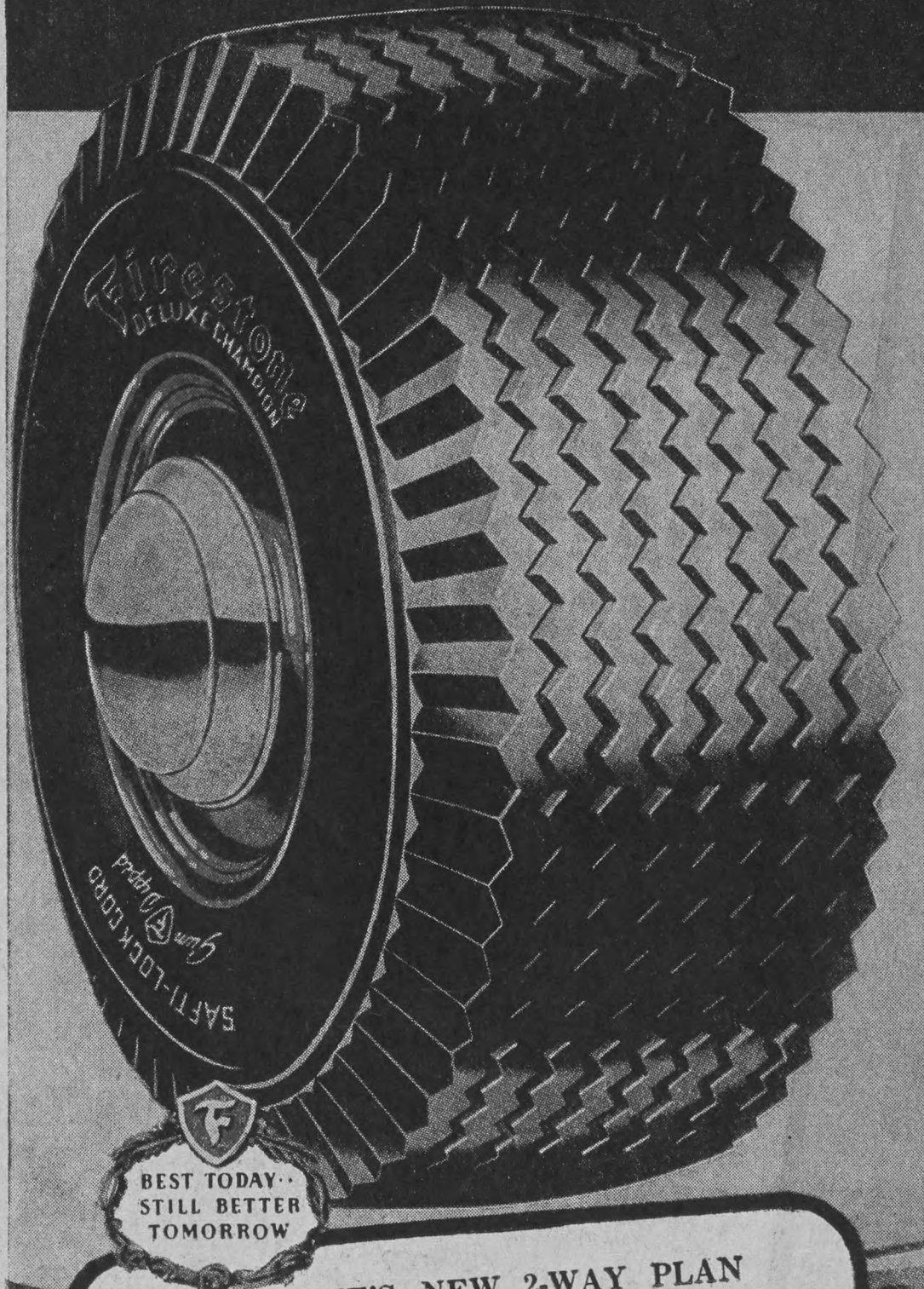
There need be no wonder that Mr. Gordon needs more time to think. The rambunctious spirit of American free enterprise, driven to frenzy by a combination of cumbersome controls and congressional elections threatens not only to overdo itself, but already promises a reaction against high prices, and a business recession perhaps approaching that of 1920-21 after World War I. It is predicted by responsible U.S. journals that the peak in prices is likely to be reached sometime in the first quarter of 1947, to be followed by a period of hesitation, and afterwards a break which will lead to declining prices, perhaps over several months or a year, with recovery occurring in 1948.

United States farm prices, which have climbed highest, are expected, as usual, to fall lowest, perhaps to a point midway between the 1939 level of 65 and the 1946 level of 157 (1926=100). In Canada, corresponding levels are at 91.8 for 1939, and 186.2 for June, 1946 (1935-39=100).

Canadian farmers are at least fortified by one to four years of forward prices for our principal export farm items. There is however, so much trade and financial traffic across the international border, that what happens in the U.S. is of very great importance to us here. Farmers certainly, in Canada, should hope that Mr. Gordon will be able to think to good purpose during the next few months.

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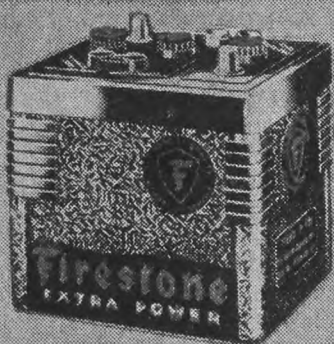
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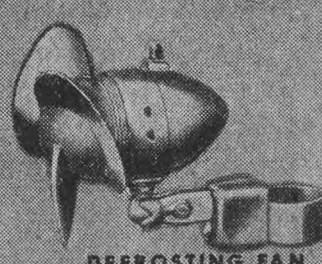
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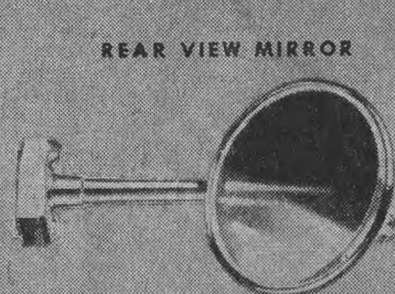
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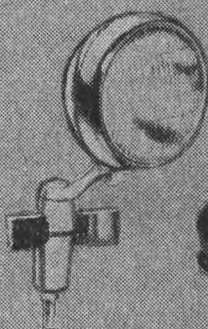


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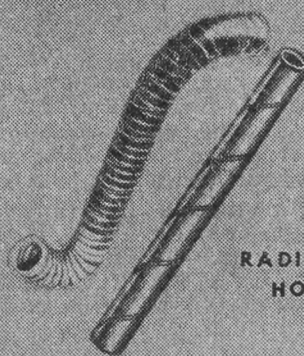
FOG LAMP



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## NEWS OF AGRICULTURE



[Guide photo.]  
Aggies of The University of Manitoba lead the Students' parade with the Atomic Cow which, being still in the experimental stage, could neither move under its own power, nor produce anything but fun.

**A**PPROXIMATELY 2,500 students are taking agricultural courses in the four provincial universities of western Canada this year. Of these, around 1,500 are taking the regular four-year degree course, and available figures indicate that approximately 60 per cent of all agricultural students are veterans.

Around 510 agricultural students are taking courses this year at the University of Manitoba. Exact figures were unobtainable, but about 320 are veterans. In the degree course (about 60 per cent veterans) first year students number about 120, second year 150, third year 25 and fourth year 20. In the two-year diploma course numbering 192, registration was not completed at October 30, but 136 (94 veterans) had already registered for the first year, in addition to 56 (37 veterans) for the second year. An additional 25 or 50 diploma students were expected, and these, together with graduate students, may bring the total number close to 550.

The College of Agriculture of the University of Saskatchewan has 399 degree students, of whom 288 are veterans, and 340 (about 70 at Prince Albert) in the two-year School of Agriculture course, of whom 200 are veterans. In addition, 19 graduates are registered for work leading to the degree of Master of Science, and seven degree students are taking a combined course in Arts and Agriculture. By years and courses (number of veterans shown in brackets), the figures are, first year degree 157 (122); second year degree 180 (135); third year degree 35 (22); fourth year degree 24 (9); special, three. School of Agriculture: first year 220 (140); second year 120 (60). Total number of students in Agriculture, 765.

The degree course at the University of Alberta this year has 149 students in first year, 111 in second year, 22 in third year and 20 in fourth year. Of the 302, there are 211 veterans, and in addition there are 11 veterans among the 22 graduates taking further studies at the University of Alberta.

No diploma course is offered at the University, but in the Alberta Schools of Agriculture at Olds and Vermilion 425 students are registered, with many more turned away. There are approximately 200 at Olds and about 225 at Vermilion (reopened for first year students only, in the fall of 1945). Thus Alberta contributes 750 students to western Canada's total of those taking agricultural courses at provincial universities.

Nearly 550 students are taking agricultural courses at the University of British Columbia this year, more than half again as many as 1945-46 (1945-325; 1946-543). Of the total, 465 (275 last year) are registered in the degree courses, and include 270 veterans (eight

women) and 195 non-veterans (56 women). Registration by years is as follows, with the number of veterans shown first in parenthesis, and total registration in 1945 shown second in parenthesis. First year degree, 117 (66) (103); second year, 175 (121) (93); third year, 112 (61) (44); fourth year 61 (22) (35). In addition to degree students, 28 are graduates taking further study, and these include nine veterans and two women non-veterans. Fifty students (24 last year) are taking a one-year "occupational" course, of whom 36 are veterans. In all courses, 315 veterans are enrolled, and 228 non-veterans. Sixty-seven of the 543 agricultural students are women, of whom eight are veterans.

\* \* \*

**U**NDER the Agricultural Co-operatives Marketing Act passed by parliament in 1939, a variety of products such as honey, onions, fox and mink pelts, seed peas, legume and grass seeds have been marketed by special agreement between the Dominion Department of Agriculture and individual co-operative associations.

The Saskatchewan Forage Crop Co-operative Organization recently completed an agreement for the 1946 forage seed crop; and a potato growers co-operative in Quebec has likewise completed an agreement which will provide growers with an initial per bushel payment, and guarantees that if the average final price is less than the initial payment, plus an agreed amount for handling and selling, the Dominion government will make up the difference.

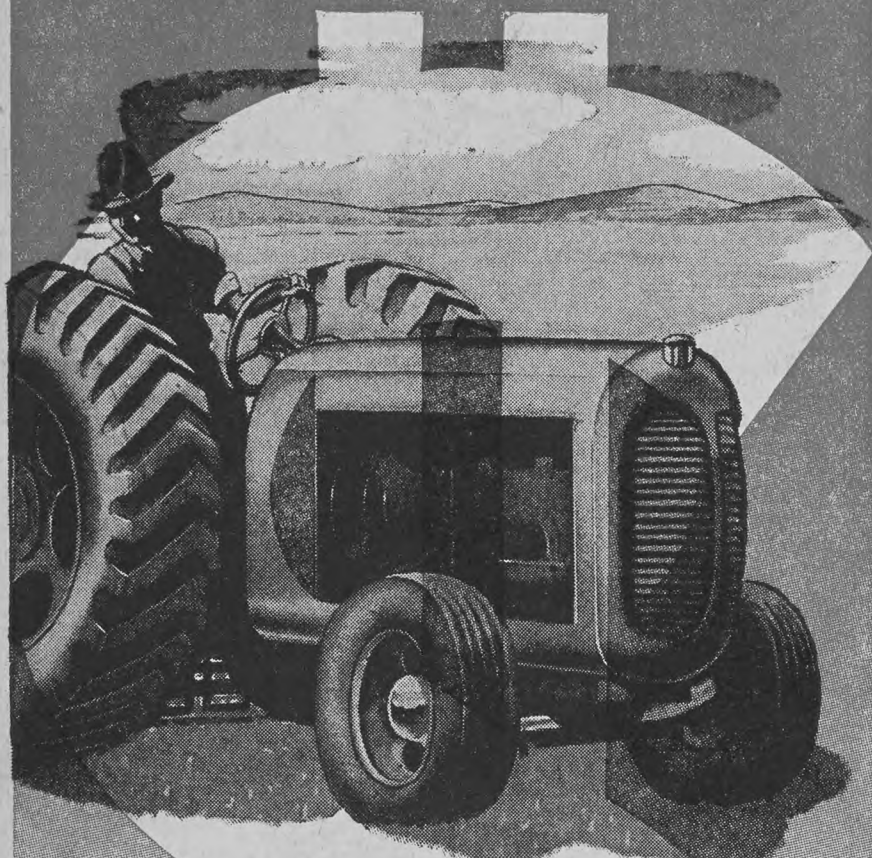
\* \* \*

**P**OTATOES are the first Canadian farm products to receive price support from the Agricultural Prices Support Board. Following a delegation from the five eastern Canadian provinces on October 2, the Board announced October 17 that the potato market in the surplus-producing provinces of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island would be supported to the extent of \$1.00 per cwt. for No. 1 potatoes delivered at factories, and 80 cents per cwt. for No. 1 small and No. 2 potatoes.

\* \* \*

**F**ARMERS and others who would like to have available at all times useful and up-to-date information about Canada, including national income, population, production, transportation and communication statistics, and forest, fisheries, mineral and waterpower resources and manufacturing, can get it all in the first postwar edition of "Canada," the official handbook of the Dominion government, available from the King's Printer, Ottawa, for 25 cents per copy postpaid.

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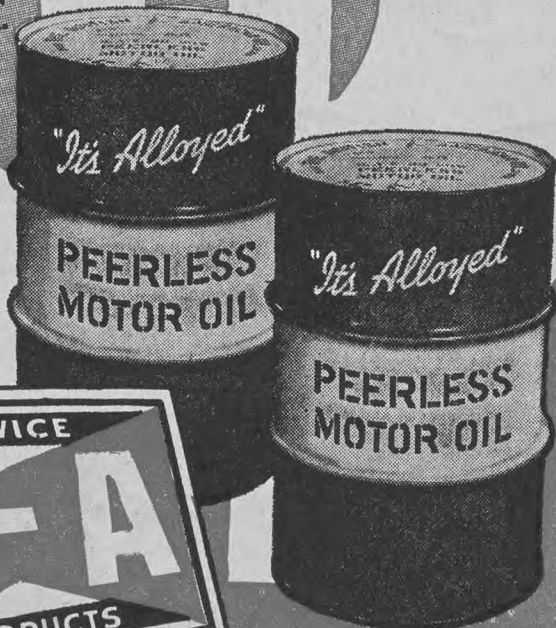
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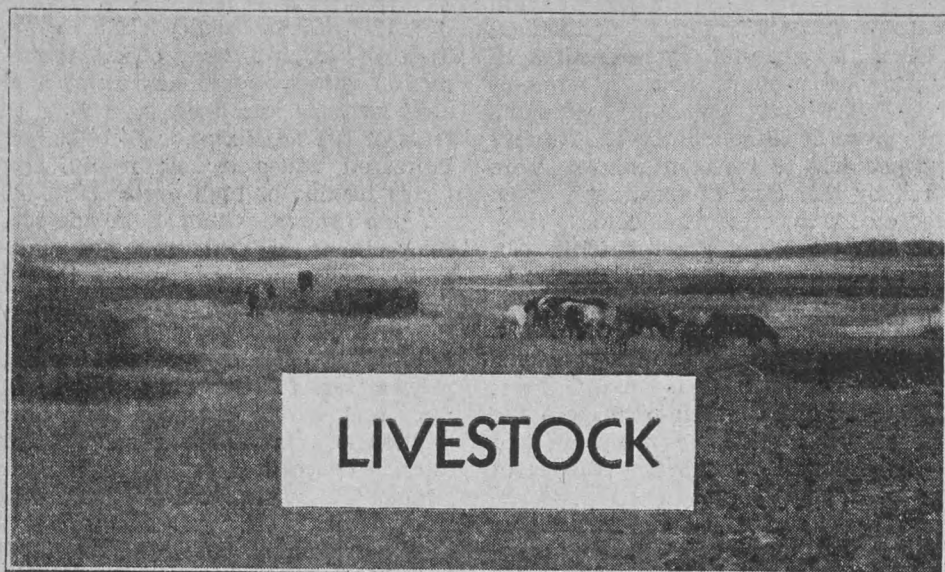
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## LIVESTOCK

*(Guide photo.)*  
Much of the livestock of western Canada is pastured on fairly rough land which makes for cheap if not high class pasture and makes maximum production difficult

### Mastitis Is Not Decreasing

Neglectful dairymen cause themselves much economic loss from this most widespread dairy cattle disease

APPROPRIATE provincial authorities in all four western provinces have recently been giving special attention to the problem of mastitis in dairy cattle. This disease, which occurs in both infectious and non-infectious forms, is probably the number one dairy cattle disease problem, as far as direct economic loss is concerned. Diagnosis and treatment are properly work for a qualified veterinarian, supplemented by the careful observation and prompt attention to the recommendations of the veterinarian, by the herd owner.

Actually, mastitis is any inflammation of the udder, regardless of the cause or severity. It follows that mastitis may occur in either beef or dairy herds, but since most beef cows are milked by calves, mild cases may not be noticed. Investigations at the Michigan Agricultural Experiment Station indicate that where both beef and dairy cattle are maintained on the same farm, dairy cattle may become infected from the beef herd, since some of the forms of bacteria causing mastitis are normally found on the hide and in the feces.

In Alberta, it is felt that a sound program for the control of mastitis should be accompanied by provision for the treatment of the disease where found. Dr. J. B. Linneboe, in charge of the dairy laboratory maintained by the Alberta Department of Agriculture, believes that mastitis is mainly an economic condition, leading to a lower yield of milk and fat. The six or seven bacterial types producing mastitis have practically the same effect, and nearly all respond to the same treatment.

Symptoms are pretty much the same regardless of the type of organism, so that proper treatment can only be prescribed after a veterinarian has made a bacterial examination of the udder. At present, veterinarians prescribe and treat pretty much according to their own experience and study. The dairy laboratory in Alberta hopes eventually to work out recommended treatments as a result of examining a very large number of samples and reports from veterinarians following the treatment of hundreds of cases. Dr. Linneboe thinks that it may eventually be practicable to make a vaccine or bacterine for use in mastitis cases. A vaccine is a dead culture of bacteria which, if injected into an animal, protects it against a specific disease by producing what are called antibodies, whereas a bacterine is a bacterial culture in formaldehyde, which, while not active, is not actually dead. Apparently scientists do not even yet fully understand the action of these curative agents.

It is necessary in checking a mastitis-infected herd, to test every quarter of each udder, since only one or as many

as four quarters may be infected, and the number cannot necessarily be determined by observation. Testing a quarter in a laboratory is very simple if there is no mastitis, but in a herd carrying mastitis Dr. Linneboe estimates that one man in a laboratory could probably test no more than 50 samples a day, which means the samples from each quarter of between 12 and 13 cows. Owing to the prevalence of mastitis in western dairy herds, it is obvious that if all dairymen began about the same time to check their herds for this disease, the laboratories would probably be unable to handle the work involved with anything like their present staffs.

Dr. Linneboe believes that penicillin will probably be the treatment that will efficiently take care of most cases. There is one type of mastitis bacteria, however, which does not yield to penicillin. All types yield to treatment with sulphanilamide, which is, however, somewhat messy to work with and slightly more expensive. There are also a number of other treatments which have not yet been thoroughly tried out, but in the meantime the penicillin treatment is cheap, has no effect on the cow, and is simple.

At the University of Wisconsin, penicillin is regarded as the most effective drug ever tested there for treating the common form of mastitis, namely, that caused by a streptococcus form of bacteria, which accounts for a high proportion of mastitis cases. In one experiment, 240 infected quarters on 120 cows in 10 different farm herds were treated. Of these, 48 were infected in one quarter, 40 in two, 16 in three quarters, and 16 in all four quarters. Penicillin was used in doses ranging from 1,000 to 100,000 units, and 15 cows were left untreated, none of which recovered from the disease in the course of the experiment.

Regardless of the amount of penicillin used per dose, this drug cured 63 per cent of the infected quarters, but about 70 per cent were cured where the dosage ranged from about 15,000 to 100,000 units. The first treatment cured 41 per cent of the quarters, while of all the quarters cured, 76 responded to the first treatment, 14 to the second and ten per cent to the third.

The desirability of using penicillin before mastitis spreads to more than one quarter was indicated by the fact that cows infected in only one quarter showed 76 per cent of cures, as compared with 69 per cent where there were two infected quarters, and 52 per cent where three or four quarters were infected. Results were good with both dry and milking cows, while penicillin did not cause any noticeable irritation to the udder in any case, nor did

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SIZES AND CAPACITIES

Size	Pounds of Milk Separated Per Hour	Gallons of Milk Separated Per Hour	Amount of Milk Separated in 10 Minutes
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No. 3	300	30	5 gal.
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SIZES AND CAPACITIES

Size	Pounds of Milk Separated Per Hour	Gallons of Milk Separated Per Hour	Amount of Milk Separated in 10 Minutes
No. 14	550	53½	9 gal.
No. 18	800	78	13 gal.
No. 19	1150	112	19 gal.

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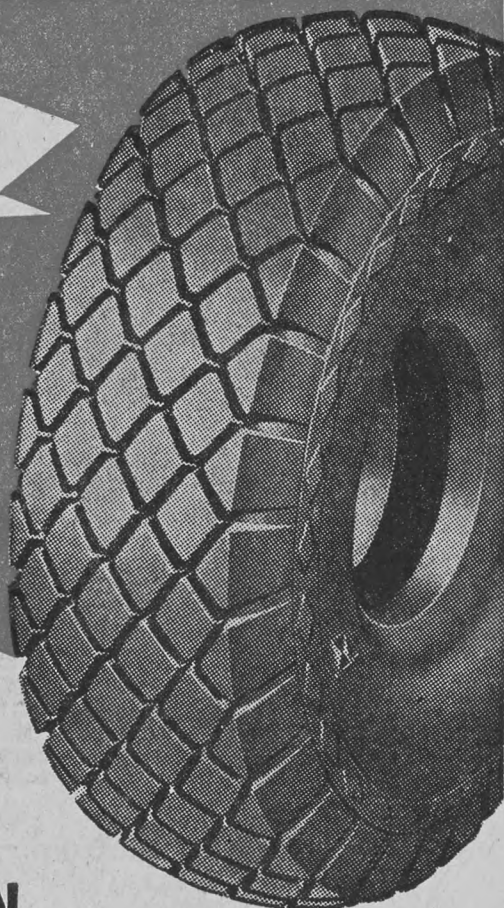


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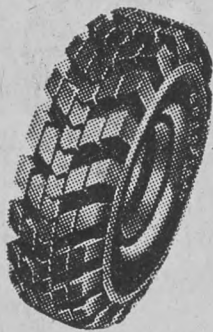
Millions of farmers have proved that Goodyear All-Weathers give more mileage at lower cost-per-mile than any other truck tire made.

It's the only truck tire with 4-way non-skid diamond tread for maximum traction on any road . . . in any weather. Extra strong body construction resists bruises. All-Weathers stay in service . . . keep your truck on the job.

Specify the best—Goodyear All-Weathers—on your new truck or as replacements.

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it unfavorably affect milk production.

Outstanding results were secured in another experiment, where a series of three 50,000 units penicillin treatments were given at 24-hour intervals. Ninety-two per cent of infected quarters were cured by this type of treatment, when used on 100 quarters of 40 cows.

In the last analysis, mastitis can only be prevented by the dairyman, who is in a better position than anyone else to control the indirect causes of the disease. While the direct causes are bacteria of several types, indirect causes are those which predispose the cow and her udder to mastitis. Poor bedding, which permits the chilling of the udder by contact with cold concrete, is a common cause, while chilled udders also result from leaving cows out on cold fall or spring nights. Injuries from poor fences or loose barbed

wire, or narrow, faulty stalls leading to teat-stepping, are other indirect causes, while cows infected with lice are more irritable and likely to step on the teats of the adjoining cow in the stall. Increased udder trouble results from heavy feeding of high protein feeds.

Acute mastitis should be detected early. Common symptoms are flaked milk, swollen udder, decrease in milk flow, loss of appetite, high temperature. Pressure on the swollen udder can be relieved by gentle massage, soothing preparations for the udder, ample bedding and light, palatable feed. Some method of classifying the herd into clean and infected groups is very desirable. The use of the strip cup, while not perfect, is easy and practicable for any dairyman. Above all, consult a qualified veterinarian as soon as possible.

### Avoid Shipping Fever

**C**ALVES suffer more from what is known as shipping fever, than yearlings or two-year-olds. The length of time during shipment, and the extreme temperature changes also have a bearing on the development of this trouble. Some cattle seem to be carriers of the disease, and as pointed out by W. D. Davies, Dominion Department of Agriculture, immediately infect the herd at home when unloaded, though they themselves apparently remain immune.

It is suggested that where range cattle are brought to farms, less trouble is experienced if they are allowed to remain outside after arrival. Putting them inside a barn or closed shed sometimes seems to lead to very serious outbreaks.

### Thirty Years of Grading

**R**ECENTLY K. D. MacKay, Senior Dairy Produce Grader for the western provinces, Winnipeg, very properly reminded the dairy industry that it was 30 years ago last spring when Ottawa called a conference for the unification of grades and grading of butter in western Canada. Prior to 1916, each province went its own way as to standards and systems of grading. Some efforts had been made to develop a type of butter produced in the Prairie Provinces which would conform to the type produced and exported from New Zealand. Some of this New Zealand butter had reached our market, and in British Columbia, to which much of our prairie butter must go, was well liked.

Mr. MacKay remarks that "a type of butter was thus developed which suited the west coast and also found acceptance in eastern and foreign markets—whether the origin of the shipment be Alberta, Saskatchewan or Manitoba, the type is the same and would sell as 'western' butter. We have, in fact, developed in western Canada a quality of butter which, at its best, satisfies the most critical Canadian trade. During the war, fortunately, cream producers and creamery operators have combined to maintain the previous standards fairly well, notwithstanding that there was always room for some improvement. We are told that there has been developed a greater uniformity of flavor, which is an excellent thing.

"Notwithstanding the splendid results which have been achieved, primarily because certain far-seeing individuals persisted year after year in striving for and leading the way toward higher uniform quality for prairie butter, there is still much that has to be done, both by producers and creamery operators. The latter, it is to be hoped, will find some way before many years have passed, of paying a somewhat higher premium for quality cream, while in their turn producers, it is to be hoped, will realize more fully the basic import-

ance of good quality cream in the marketing of butter at satisfactory prices."

It is possible to vaccinate against shipping fever, if vaccination is done about two weeks before shipment; and where valuable young cattle in particular, are to be shipped, this is very cheap insurance. Where animals purchased at sales or private farms cannot be held for this length of time, Mr. Davies suggests that they can be protected by inoculating with aggressin, which insures protection for a period of 10 to 14 days, and thus will cover any normal shipping period.

Any of these preventives are readily available to veterinarians, and can be used on short notice. Such preventive measures are particularly valuable at this season of the year when feeder cattle are shipped in large numbers.

ance of good quality cream in the marketing of butter at satisfactory prices."

The production of creamery butter in the prairie provinces this year will show a decrease from 1945, owing partly at least, to a decline in the number of milk cows. Manitoba and Alberta, which have approximately the same number of milk cows, each have about two-thirds of the number in Saskatchewan, where the decrease up to the end of August was a little less than ten per cent. In Manitoba, August production of creamery butter was nearly eight per cent lower than a year ago, and in September a little more than three per cent lower. The decline in cheese production was slightly greater than in the case of butter for both months.

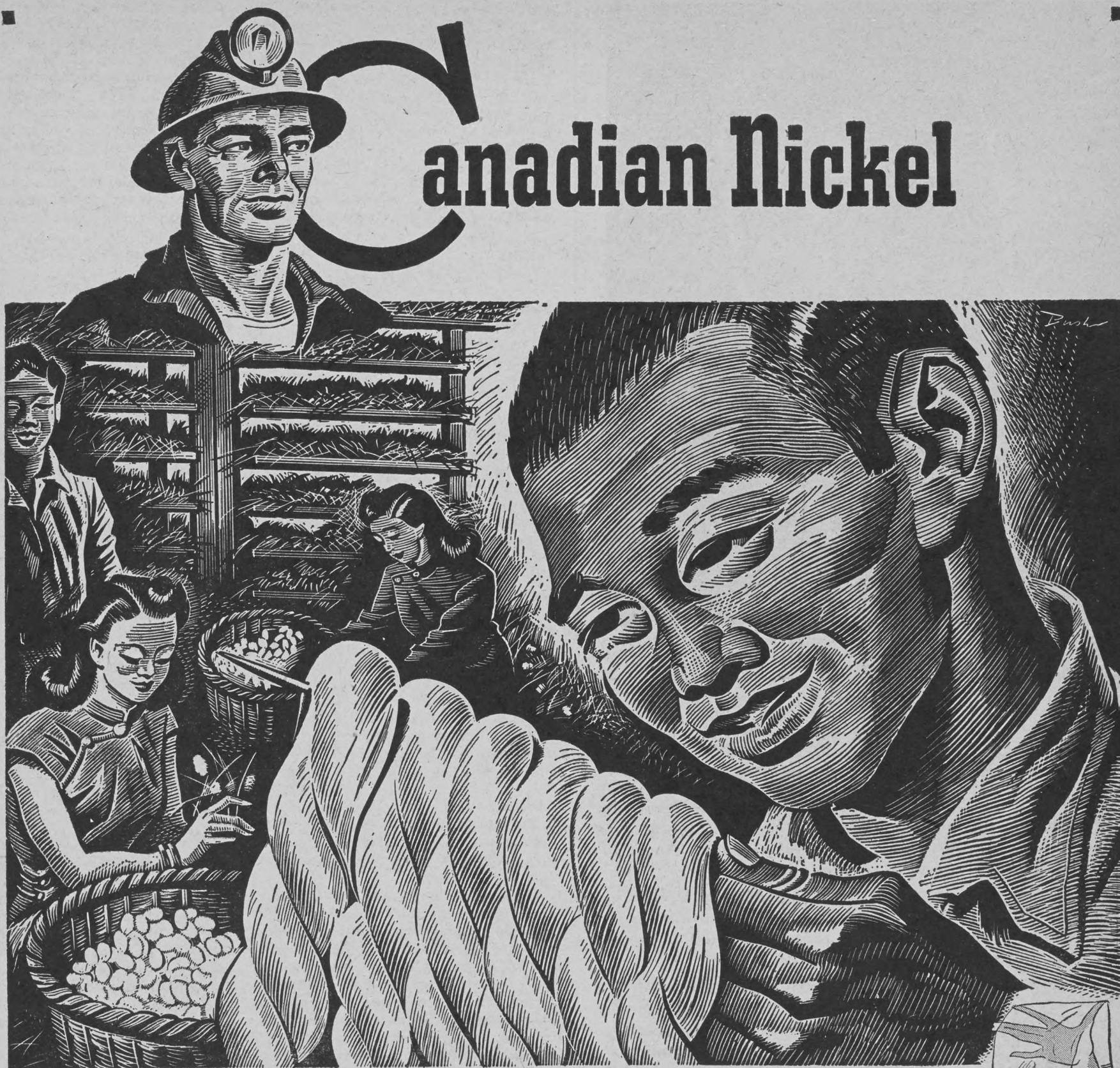
### Substitution of Grains

**S**UBSTITUTION of livestock feeding-stuffs one for another is quite common on farms. This is especially true of the cereal grains which are grown on the farm and are therefore available for substitution most readily.

Feeders of livestock, however, sometimes do not realize the full effect on the growth and weight increase of the animals, which some forms of substitution produce. For example, the fibre content of grain tends to increase as the weight per quart decreases. There is also a more or less proportionate decrease in the energy value of the feed. Most feeders feed by measure rather than by weight, and if a change in feed occurs, which produces a different quantity of proportion of nutrients in one quart of the grain or chop fed, either the animal is likely to be insufficiently nourished to make profitable gains, or the protein content may go up so that feeding is unprofitable because the feed is too expensive.

Wheat, for example, contains 4.1 per cent of fibre, and weighs 1.6 pounds per quart. Barley contains 6.2 per cent of fibre, and weighs 1.3 pounds per quart, while 3 C.W. oats contain 11 per cent





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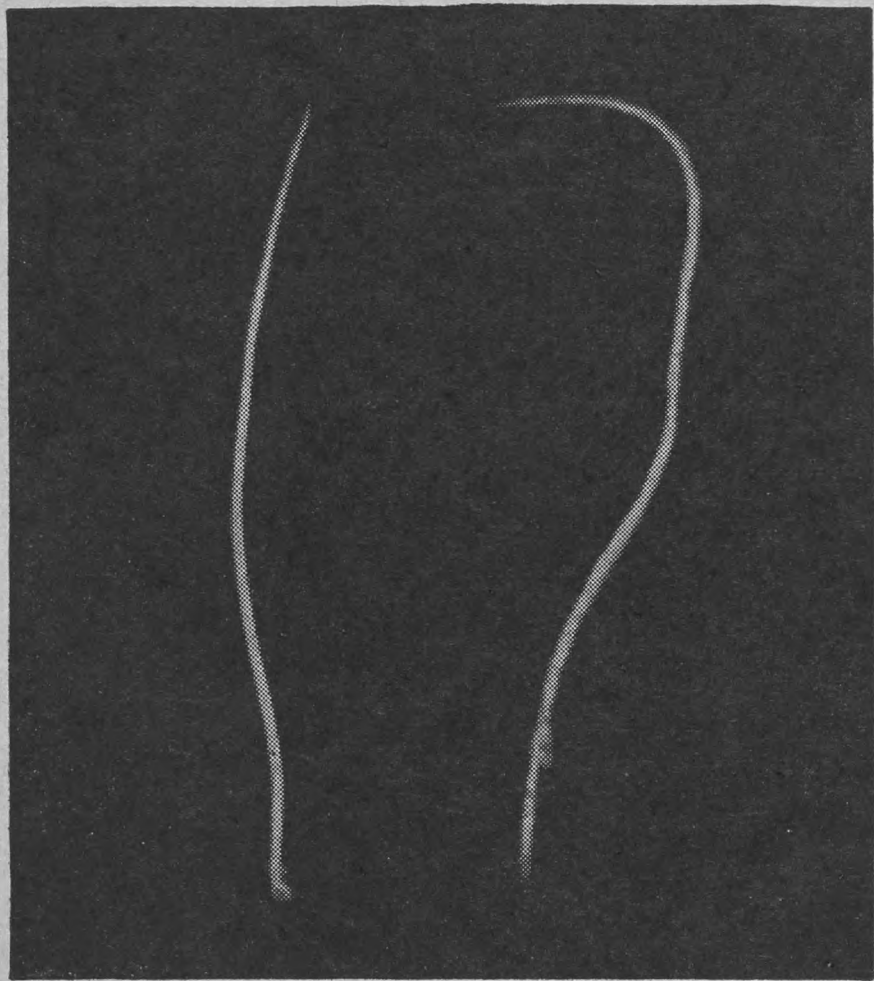


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These photographs of male (left) and female (right) stomach worms of sheep were made in the Dr. Hess laboratory during routine post-mortem work

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of fibre, and weighs only .7 pounds per quart, so that substitutions by volume of barley for oats, would cut the fibre by more than a third, but would increase the weight by close to 100 per cent.

The effect of substitution of feeds high in fibre (low in weight) for those high in weight (low in fibre), is that the feeding value of the feed given to animals goes down materially. Dr. E. W. Crampton of Macdonald College, Quebec, has shown that where the weight per quart of feed is reduced from about one pound per quart, to say, .6 pound

per quart, the number of quarts needed to provide ten pounds of total digestible nutrients in the feed, goes up from 11.7 quarts to 24.5, whereas, with the same reduction in weight per quart, the total number of pounds needed to give ten pounds of total digestible nutrients only increases from 12.9 to 14.7.

From these figures, it is easy to recognize the importance of avoiding too much rule of thumb method in substituting one feed for another, and of trying to find out as accurately as possible the real feeding value, or the nutritional value, of each feed used.

## Adjusting Livestock Numbers

**T**HE survey of livestock numbers in Canada as of June 1, 1946, shows that all classes of livestock have suffered. Cattle have dropped by 374,000 to 10,285,000; sheep and lambs by 244,000 to 3,378,000; hogs by 649,000 to 5,377,000, and horses by 188,000 to 2,397,000.

Cattle fortunately, have shown a decline in each province, Saskatchewan, as might have been anticipated, showing the largest decrease, amounting to 5.8 percent. Milk cows in that province have decreased by nearly 24,000 and other cattle by 92,000, leaving, however, a total cattle population in Saskatchewan of 1,863,900, or nearly 96,000 head more than in Alberta.

Oddly enough, Saskatchewan, the great grain growing province, leads in the number of milk cows, having about 147,000 more than Alberta, which leads by 52,000 in the number of other cattle on hand.

The decline in cattle numbers which is more pronounced in the western provinces and in the Maritimes than in Ontario and Quebec, is all to the good. Farmers have evidently begun to prepare for the time when the food scarcity in Europe will not be so acute, and when Canada will find it impossible to maintain the present profitable United Kingdom beef market.

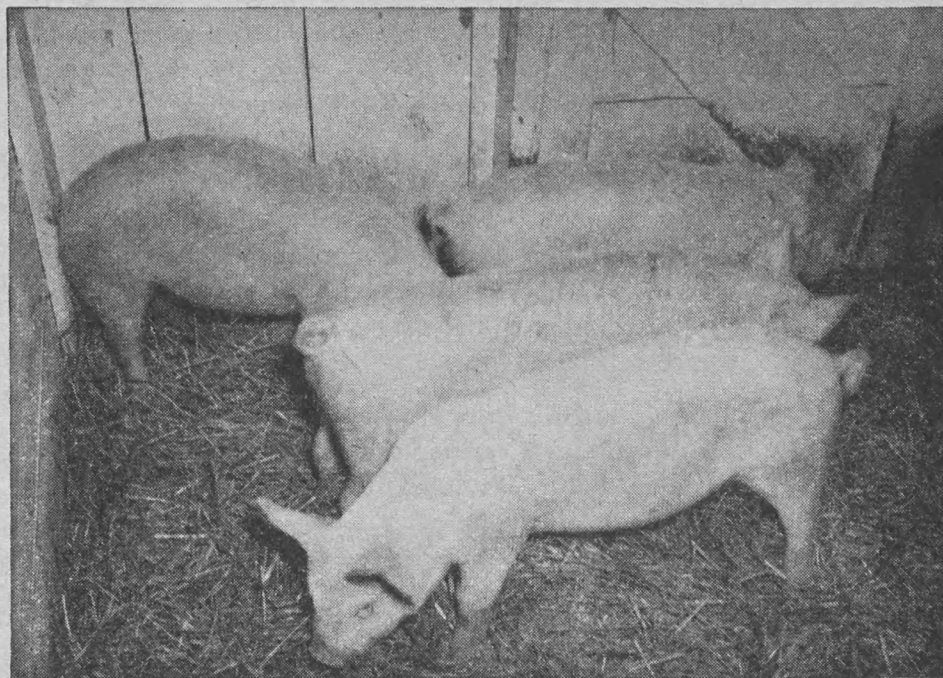
The recent announcement by Hon. J. G. Gardiner that for the next two years Canadian beef producers are guaranteed a market for 120 million pounds of beef in Britain (more, if possible, in 1947) gives assurance for a further period, but past experience has shown that it takes a comparatively long time for the farming industry to increase production and even longer to decrease it. Notwithstanding the additional two years of guaranteed continuance of the British market for Canadian beef, the policy repeatedly advocated by The Country Guide is still good, namely, that cattle herds should be reduced by first moving out all inferior and therefore unprofitable animals.

Saskatchewan is the only province in Canada which has increased its sheep population in the past year, though the increase is only one per cent, or 5,200 head. Manitoba has shown the sharpest decrease of any province, the reduction here being 58,000 head, or 20.4 per cent. In respect to sheep numbers, incidentally, Alberta has approximately four times the number of sheep in Manitoba, while Saskatchewan stands about midway between, with around the same number as Quebec, and about 30,000 more than British Columbia and the three Maritime Provinces combined.

The sheep decrease in Alberta has been a little under nine per cent, or the same as Quebec and Prince Edward Island. As in the case of cattle, Ontario has shown only a small decrease—less than four per cent.

The least fortunate decrease of livestock numbers is in the case of hogs. Here, the one kind of livestock for which a continuing market seems reasonably assured, the decrease has been continuous since December, 1943, though during the last year the decrease has been less than half the decline between June, 1944, and June, 1945. It is difficult to foretell at what figure the hog population of Canada will be stabilized, if indeed it is possible to stabilize it at all owing to the long-time tendency of farmers to get in and out of the hog business. In eastern Canada there was an overall increase this year over last, but western Canada is still in the process of recovery from its splurge of war-time pig raising.

The horse population, as might have been expected, continues its downward trend, the loss since June, 1942, amounting to 419,000 head, of which nearly half has occurred in the last year. Between the processing of horse meat for human consumption and for use in fur farming, and the severe competition from increasing mechanization in agriculture, poor old Dobbin is having a hard time keeping up the birth rate.

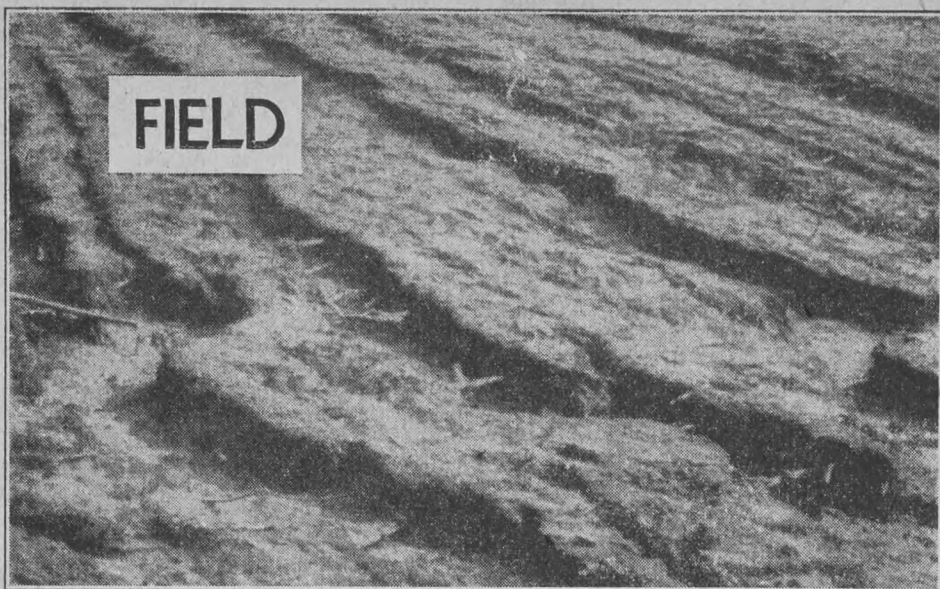


These four pigs at the Advanced Registry Station, University of Manitoba, are being fed with other pens of four from other Manitoba litters. The response they make will reflect the breeding qualities of dam and sire.

[Guide photo.]



## FIELD



[U.S.D.A. photo.]  
This is water erosion, which unless stopped, will ruin the fertility of the soil. When that goes the farmer's capital is gone too and the nation has lost a part of its most valuable asset.

## The Soil Can Be Lost

THE most important of all our natural resources in Canada is the soil. The farmer is the steward, or trustee of this national asset. As the years go by he will be held more strictly to account for what he does with it.

Over long centuries of time the world's population has increased until it is now more than two billion. Along with it, in more advanced countries, such as the northwestern portion of Europe and North America there has developed a very complex civilization. Even in Canada, a comparatively new and undeveloped country, almost three-quarters of our people live in cities and towns. Soil and the use that is made of it becomes increasingly important as more and more people are cut adrift from the land and must depend on others to produce and deliver their food materials to them.

Today there are hundreds of millions of acres of land throughout the world now unfit for crop production because it has been rendered useless by misuse and neglect. Even in North America, in less than 360 years, the wastage of soil through ignorance, carelessness and bad farming has been enormous. In Canada, we have scarcely begun to calculate the losses to date, although in eastern Canada soil conservation has become an important factor, and even in western Canada, new as it is, we have had many examples of land abandoned which was once fruitful, and large amounts of other land on which yields have gradually decreased over the years.

In the United States, with 12 times our population, and containing roughly the same area in square miles, the problem has aroused much more concern. There, about 360 million acres are devoted to crops each year, and no more than another hundred million acres can be brought under cultivation through

clearing, drainage, irrigation or other improvements. Already about 282 million acres of crop and grazing land have been ruined or badly damaged by erosion in the United States. In addition, some erosion has already taken place on an additional 775 million acres of crop, grazing, forest and other U.S. land. It is estimated, in fact, that about 500,000 acres of U.S. soils "go down to ruin each year," and this is the reason that the United States government is spending annually an amount of money on soil conservation equal to about one-third of the total Canadian cash farm income in the best wartime year.

If six million American farmers combine to ruin 500,000 acres per year, it means that each one on the average is responsible for the loss of one-twelfth of an acre. By the beginning of this year, 47 States had passed soil conservation district laws, and 1,440 districts, involving 3,616,000 farms and 794 million acres, had been organized for soil conservation. That it pays is evident by the fact that in 1943, there were 8,931 out of 9,300 farmers reporting, who estimated that their average yield increase for the principal crops grown had been 35.7 per cent, as the result of soil conservation practices. This meant that by conserving soil they had produced more on three acres than had formerly been possible on four. They had achieved this result by preventing runoff, soil drifting and erosion, by using manure and fertilizer where needed, by adopting proper tillage and cropping practices to save rainfall and protect the soil, by draining waterlogged fields, planting trees, grass or legumes on hillsides and very poor land, by avoiding overgrazing and by other sound practices.

The only reason we are not more conscious of soil losses in western Canada is because we have not been destroying our soil for so long a time.

## Curing Hay In The Barn

FOR most classes of livestock, especially for cattle, and particularly for dairy cattle, hay is the most important element in the ration. The feed value of hay, however, is lessened materially if it is not well cured so as to retain the greatest possible proportion of the green color, and the largest possible percentage of the leaves. This combination is extremely difficult to attain in areas where there is an abundance of rainfall during the growing season. The weather at haying time is likely to be "catchy," with the result that hay is difficult to cure and almost impossible to put away without serious loss in quality.

In areas where there is abundant rainfall, such as portions of the southeastern States, where rainfall amounts to perhaps 50 inches a year, this difficulty in curing hay is especially costly,

because it is in such areas that legume crops, high in protein and excellent for feeding, grow most luxuriantly. It is in such areas, consequently, that attempts have been most numerous to cure hay in the barn by drawing it in after wilting, when the moisture has been reduced from about 75 per cent to around 50 per cent, and forcing unheated air through it until it has been dried down to a moisture content of about 20 per cent.

The saving involved in this method is very considerable in catchy weather areas. In Virginia, where more haydriers have been sold than in any other of the southeastern States, a survey in 1942 on 215 farms indicated that about nine per cent of total hay production was lost, and an additional 16 per cent damaged by curing in the field.

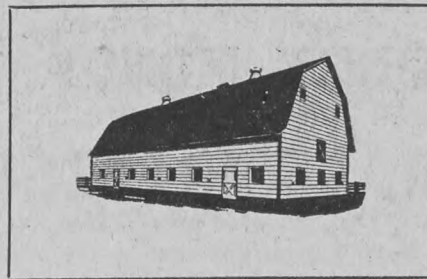
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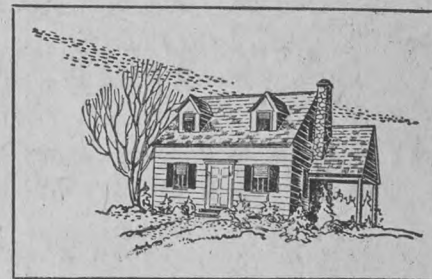
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The method of barn drying has been under investigation since 1937, and is based primarily on the fact that alfalfa hay, for example, containing around 75 per cent of moisture when cut, will dry down to under 50 per cent after four hours in the swath, under favorable weather conditions. The cost of barn drying from here on is therefore much less than if moisture was not lost so quickly for the first three or four hours in the field after cutting. After many trials and experiments, a method was evolved of placing partially cured hay over a system of wooden air ducts laid on the mow floor, and then forcing a large volume of unheated air through the mass of hay by means of a powerful fan.

Hay barn-cured in this way retains an additional 10 or 11 per cent of the leaves which would otherwise fall off in field curing, as well as an additional 17 per cent of the green color, which is of great importance in feed quality, and an additional three per cent of the protein, the most valuable feed quality.

Where electricity is not available for driving fans, these have been successfully operated by gasoline engines. Where labor and materials are economically used, U.S. experience indicates that installations have averaged 25 cents to 35 cents per square foot of mow space in cost, including lumber, fans, driers, controls, motor and labor. Adequate ventilation is required, since fan and motor must be powerful enough to drive 1,000 cubic feet of air per minute through the fan house, a minimum of 10 cubic feet of air through the fan house for each square foot of mow area, which in turn requires an air intake of one square foot per 1,000 cubic feet of air per minute delivered by the fan.

The Country Guide has only seen two such barn drier installations in western Canada, and both of these, as might be expected, in British Columbia. One was on Vancouver Island, on a dairy farm, and the other at the Dominion Experimental Farm at Agassiz, where a co-operative trial was underway through a joint arrangement between the experimental farm, the B.C. Electric Company and the Canadian General Electric Company.

At Agassiz, a mow 30 feet by 30 feet was used, and the installation was what is known as the single main system, whereby the fans and motor are placed at one end of the barn, with the main duct leading down through the centres, and laterals placed on four foot centres leading at right angles to right and left, and extending to within six feet of the side walls of the mow. The main duct tapers from 6 feet 6 inches at the blower inlet, to 6 inches at the far end, and was a twin-unit, centrifugal fan driven by a five horsepower electric motor, and was

capable of delivering about 15 cubic feet per square foot of mow area per minute.

The cost of the installation was unnecessarily high (54 cents per square foot) owing to the use of higher grade lumber than necessary.

One cutting of 50 per cent red and alsike clover, and the balance Italian rye and timothy had been cured at the time we saw the installation. This crop was slightly past full bloom, with the rye grass overripe when cut, and had a moisture content of 75.25 per cent. The weather for the most part was dull and cloudy, humidity running from 60 to 94 per cent. Four hours after cutting, eight loads were put into the mow, averaging 42.7 per cent moisture. The next morning four additional loads, and in the afternoon two further loads were added, while two days later two final loads, cut for two days and wet with rain were placed on top, bringing the final depth of hay over the duct to ten feet, and the total tonnage of hay weighed from the fields to 22.5 tons.

In 156 hours of fan operation (not continuous) this hay was dried to 17.8 tons at a power cost of 73 cents per ton of dried hay, or a total power cost at two cents per kilowatt hour, of \$12.96.

The top layer of wet hay was moulded slightly, but was usable, whereas under ordinary conditions it would have been badly damaged. The color and odor improved considerably downward in the mow. Leaves were retained and no serious discoloration occurred (the hay dries from the bottom upward).

Ordinary haying equipment was used, but narrower loads were built, and it was a little more difficult to insert the hay fork than is the case with fully-cured hay. Officials at Agassiz pointed out that the hay must be evenly distributed over the system and not tramped more than necessary, though some tramping along the walls is essential to prevent air leaking.

The method is not considered practicable under continued wet conditions. W. H. Hicks, superintendent at Agassiz, believes that for British Columbia conditions it would probably be best to ensile the first crop and rely on the natural curing process for the second. Further experience, however, will doubtless be available from Agassiz as a result of this co-operative installation.

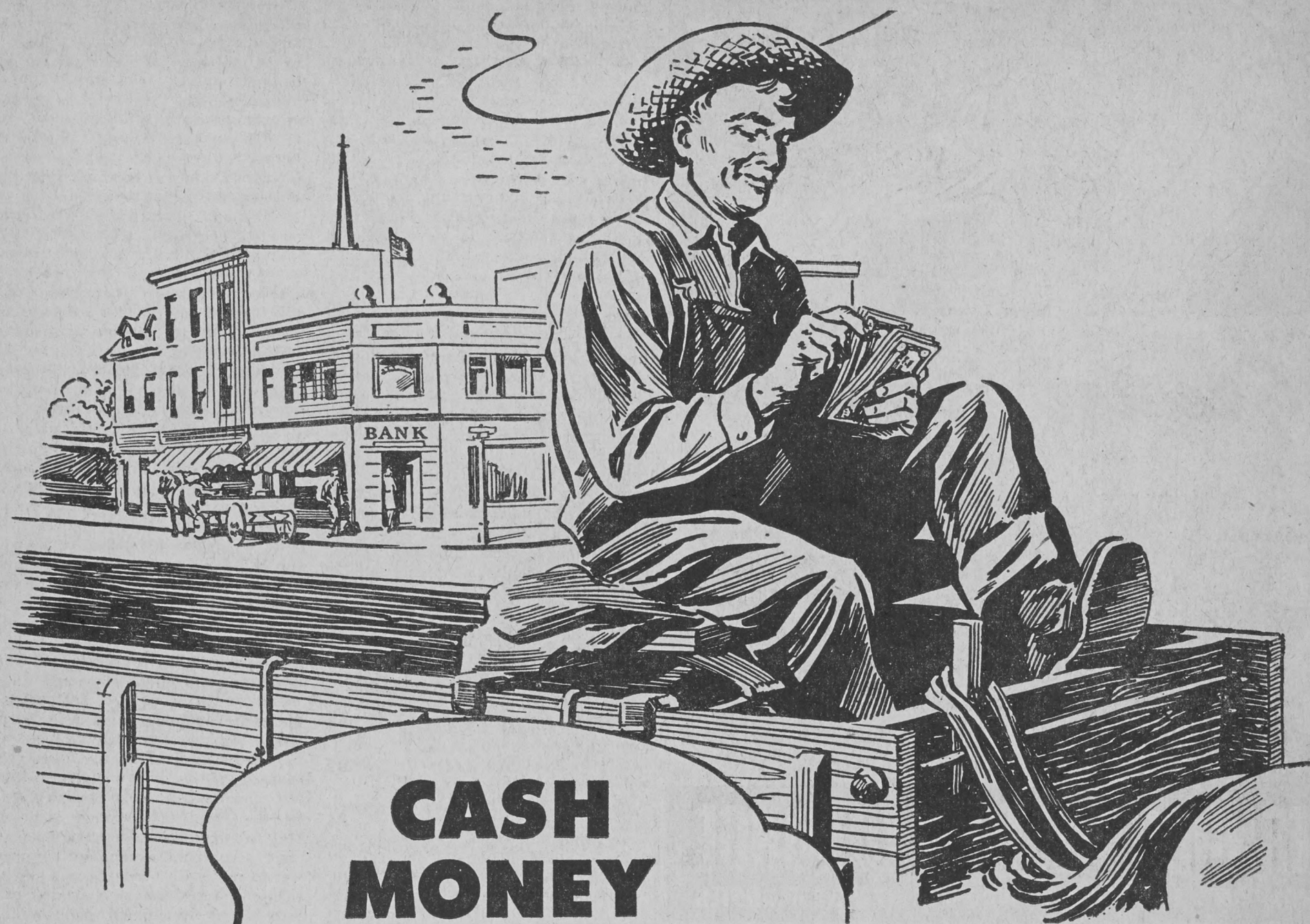
### Irrigation the Stabilizer

PERSONS unaccustomed to farming by irrigation sometimes find it difficult to realize the change in the character of farming in a district, which may be brought about by water alone. We have enough cause to recognize the importance of moisture to prairie agriculture, but as it happens, this importance has forced itself on our attention more



This is contour farming. Not much practised in Canada as yet, it will come when we realize the enormity of annual soil losses through erosion.





## CASH MONEY

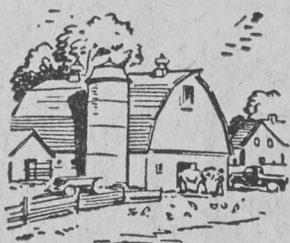
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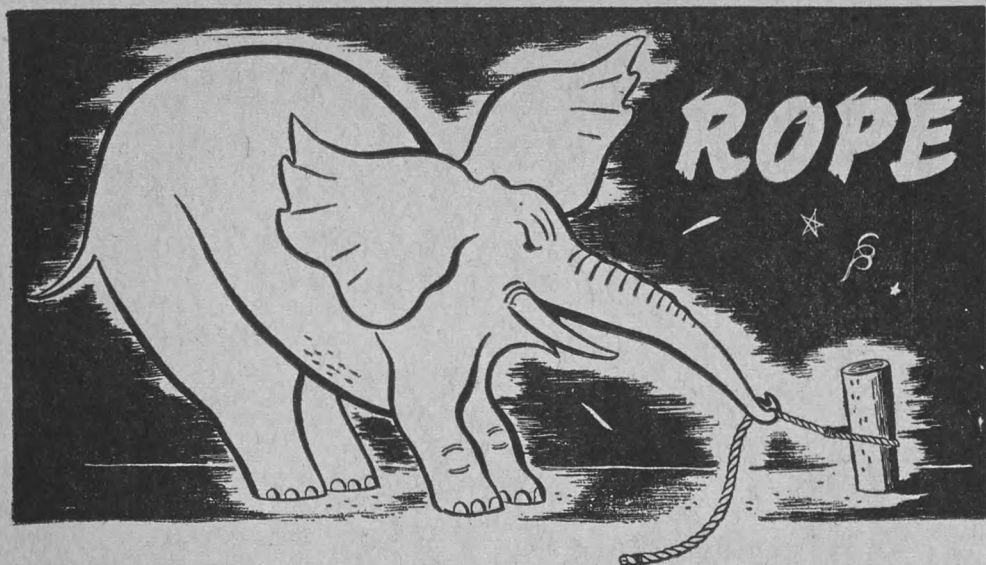
Farmer Neilson, and thousands like him, spend money for household and farm equipment, food, clothes, radios, paint and a hundred other things. This helps keep people busy all over the Dominion.

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often by seasons where moisture is lacking than when it is abundant. Furthermore, the difference between an occasional year of abundant natural moisture and the harvesting of bumper crops, and an abundance of moisture in the form of water from irrigation (the use of which can be controlled), is very striking.

In the latter case, the whole character of the agriculture of an irrigated area is completely changed, solely as the result of the controlled use of water. In non-irrigated areas, a year of heavy rainfall and abundant crops is an uncertain occurrence, and it is unsafe to change cropping systems on the strength of one good moisture year in three or four.

In the Lethbridge-Taber area, for example, a much wider range of crops can be produced than where irrigation is not available. There is even a difference of from ten days to two weeks in the earliness of crops, as between Taber and Lethbridge, though these are only 20 miles apart. In addition to wheat, both spring and fall, the usual run of general farm crops such as oats, barley, alfalfa, sweet clover, and some alsike clover are grown at Lethbridge, and row crops, such as sugar beets, mangels, turnips and potatoes, both for commercial and certified seed purposes. Among small fruits, both strawberries and raspberries can be profitably grown, and canning crops, such as sweet corn, cucumbers (pickles), carrots, table beets, pumpkins, beans and peas are produced. Among other vegetable crops not grown for canning are popcorn, muskmelon, cabbage and certain cauliflower. This available choice of crops added to livestock opportunities, assisted by the by-products of sugar beet factories, makes possible a much more stable agriculture for a district, and a more profitable one as well.

### Bacterial Wilt of Alfalfa

**D**URING the past seven years, since 1939, when bacterial wilt of alfalfa was first reported in Alberta, it has spread throughout the entire irrigated area of southern Alberta. The disease, as its name indicates, is the result of bacterial action, by which the bacteria find their way into the living cells of the alfalfa plant, particularly the tissues of the roots which conduct water to the remainder of the plant. The bacteria gain entrance through wounds and are carried to other parts of the plants by the water which moves upward from the roots to the leaves. The bacteria increase rapidly, and thus cause obstructions, which slow up the movement of water in the plant and slowly choke it to death, so that it gradually wilts and dies.

According to the Dominion Experimental Station authorities at Lethbridge, the first noticeable effect is a gradual dwarfing of the alfalfa plant, and a yellowing of the leaves. When plants are noticed with small leaves, short stems and generally stunted appearance, and these are dug up, cutting off the root just below the crown will show a dark ring immediately beneath the bark. It is in this area of the tissue that the bacteria multiply and stop the water movement. In healthy plants this part of the tissue is creamy white.

The principal reason why the disease has spread so rapidly through irrigated districts, is that it spreads with the irrigation water. Waste water from diseased fields spreading over new alfalfa stands will infect the new stand. The disease may also be carried on the knife of a mower, particularly when the alfalfa is wet. It is therefore recommended that if an old, diseased field has been cut, the knife should be disinfected with one pint of formaldehyde to 15 gallons of water before the mower is moved to a young and healthy stand. Also, if an old diseased field has been plowed up, the

field should not be reseeded to alfalfa again before the root has been allowed to completely decay. These precautions, while not preventing the spreading of the disease, will serve to slow it down. Scientists in both Canada and the United States are attempting to develop varieties of alfalfa resistant to this disease, and in Canada special efforts are being made in this direction by the Dominion Experimental Station at Lethbridge, working in co-operation with the Dominion Laboratory of Plant Pathology at Edmonton.

One or two varieties such as Ledak and Ranger are fairly resistant, but Grimm and most other varieties succumb fairly readily to bacterial wilt. It appears that young alfalfa stands show little evidence of the disease, but with the third and succeeding years, alfalfa stands begin to thin out until by the time the fifth and sixth years are reached, the loss of plants has been very heavy. This becomes a serious matter in, say, a ten-year rotation of six years of alfalfa, three years grain, and one year of row crops. If the alfalfa peters out or becomes unprofitable before the sixth year, the rotation is completely upset.

R. W. Peake, in charge of breeding for bacterial wilt resistance at Lethbridge, is able to study the effects of the disease on individual varieties by means of large numbers of pure variety plots in duplicate. A special field test for bacterial wilt is underway in which something like 5,000 individual alfalfa plants are being studied. Lots of three plants each were dug up from the variety plot, examined for bacterial wilt, and only those showing absence of wilt were planted in the field test. Dr. K. Rasmussen, Assistant Superintendent, with whom a Country Guide editor visited the plots in the absence of Mr. Peake, said that these disease-free plants were then inoculated with the disease and planted. Should they still appear resistant, plants would be re-inoculated in an effort to definitely prove resistance.

Each group of plants is duplicated one or more times throughout the field test area, which will therefore contain a wide number of selections and a good variation in disease resistance. Varieties from several Canadian provinces and several of the United States will be represented, from which it is hoped either a resistant strain may be secured or hopeful material for further breeding work.

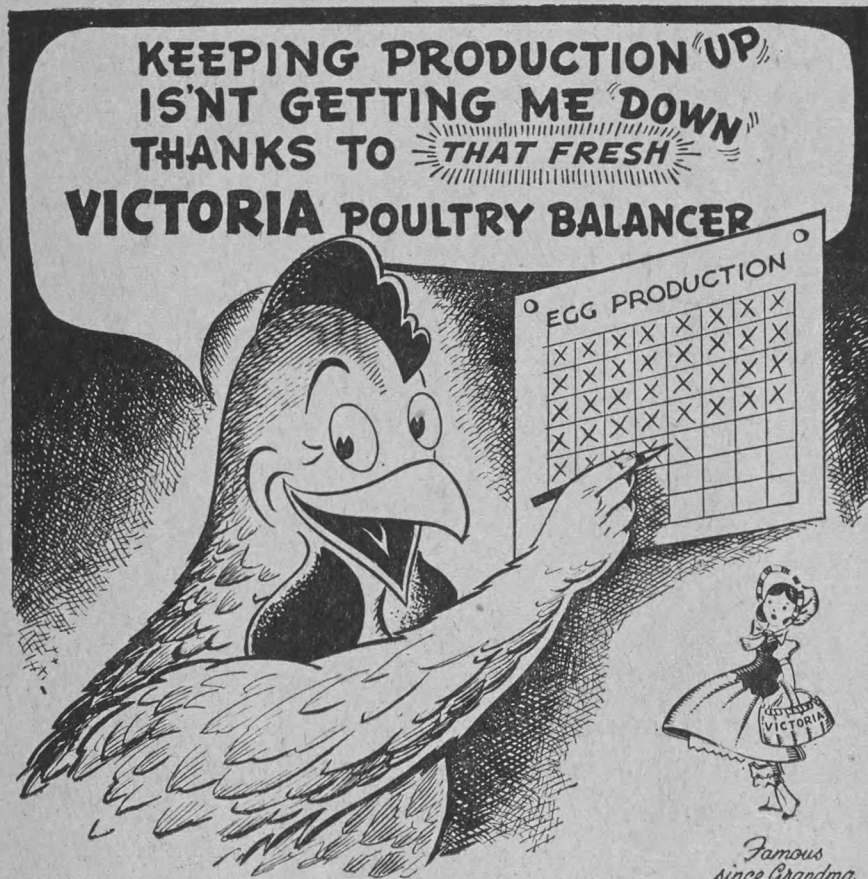
It has been found that much of the so-called winter killing of alfalfa is traceable to bacterial wilt, and since in any area where alfalfa is a major crop a fairly long rotation is likely to be desirable, the search for a wilt-resistant strain or variety is proceeding apace.

### Kill Bindweed With Sheep

**B**OTANIST at the North Dakota Agricultural College Experiment Station, Dr. E. A. Helgeson believes that a practical method has been developed for completely killing bindweed, by grazing with sheep. Sheep like bindweed, but, argues Dr. Helgeson, it is impossible to pasture the weeds close enough to kill them and still give the sheep enough to eat. He believes the answer lies in growing a crop which appeals less to the sheep than bindweed and in growing it on infested land. He suggests sowing rye in September, plowing under in June, and seeding the land immediately with Sudan grass, so that a pasture will be provided during most of the growing season.

Dr. Helgeson maintains that, "since the sheep prefer the bindweed to these crops, they will eat the weed first. The weeds eventually die out because the sheep can graze so close to the ground."

He contends that this practice will completely kill bindweed in two seasons, with but little expense to the owner of the land.



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# HORTICULTURE



Both the shy young lady and the fine appearing vegetables were grown in Yukon Territory, close to the Arctic Circle. [J. W. Abbott photo.]

## Yukon Vegetables

THE illustration on this page we owe to the courtesy of W. R. Leslie, superintendent of the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden. Mr. Leslie received it from J. W. Abbott, superintendent of the experimental sub-station about 100 miles west of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, whom we visited last year in company with Mr. Leslie.

The vegetables were grown in the Yukon (Dawson City, we believe) and we quote herewith interesting comment from Mr. Abbott's letter:

"We've only recently returned from a seasonal survey trip into the interior valleys. We left Whitehorse August 9 and returned September 1, travelling principally by river steamship. Alternately we sought motor-boat and plane for transportation to off-the-main-line locations.

"It's a revealing trip, and the revelations are sometimes disturbing. For instance, one from Manitoba we'll say, would scarcely expect to find tomatoes ripening on the vines out-doors, a few miles below the Arctic Circle. Or would one? At any rate we did. And pulled and ate them therefrom, and discovered a native flavor incomparable. And we did the same thing last year. Of course generally they don't practise outdoor cultivation of tomatoes, or other tender species; these are customarily raised in greenhouses.

"And the common garden vegetables, . . . well, they're just too common for discussion. They simply raise them in their gardens year after year — and think no more of it."

## Fire Blight

DURING the past season many farm fruit garden owners must have been disappointed to find blossoms, twigs and small branches of cherished fruit trees withered and blasted as though scorched by fire. Examination of the twigs and branches of such trees would show sunken, discolored cankers, and patches of uneven bark.

This is a disease known as fire blight, a severe bacterial disease which fortunately has not, until this year, hit the prairie provinces very hard. Two or three years ago a severe infestation occurred in southern Manitoba, and at the Dominion Experimental Station, Morden, the infestation was serious.

Unfortunately, treatment is not easy. A light-colored fluid appears around the sunken areas on twigs and branches, which contains millions of bacteria. These in turn are splashed about by rain, or carried by bees, flies and wind. So far, the only treatment that can be

recommended is to prune off the affected twigs and branches well beyond any evident indication of the disease, to at least six inches. Everything cut away in this manner must be burned, or the work will be useless, and all pruning shears, saws, knives, or other instruments used for pruning, disinfected after each cut. Furthermore, the cut itself should be disinfected. This obviously means a lot of work, and the amount of care and attention is increased by the fact that new infections are likely to appear after the trees have been gone over carefully, and these in turn must be attended to promptly, because fire blight spreads very rapidly, especially in hot or wet weather.

## Good Fruit Crop This Year

A FRIENDLY note from J. R. Blades, Oshon, Alberta, comments on the very good crop of apples and crabapples this year in spite of the unsatisfactory spring. Duchess, Wealthy, Hibernial, McDonald and Haralson, in addition to a number of unnamed apples, have borne good crops, while all crabapple varieties had heavy crops, some of them breaking down with the load. Plums were not so heavy, since many of the early varieties were caught by spring frosts. Opata had the usual good crop, but Pembina and Dura crops were only fair. Nanking cherries and Tate Drop-more pears were both good this year, and Mr. Blades, who, in addition to his own orchard and garden, conducts a small demonstration orchard for the Provincial Horticultural Station at Brooks, comments that "it is gratifying to see much more interest being taken in this type of horticulture. We have had many visitors this summer, some from eastern Canada and the U.S., who were amazed to see what can be grown in this part of our great country."

## New Alberta Bulletin

FARM families in Alberta who are interested in planning and beautifying the farmstead and grounds around their farm homes, should by all means obtain a copy of Bulletin No. 9 from the Alberta Department of Agriculture.

This bulletin, which has recently been issued, is written by E. C. Hallman, who has been in charge of the Alberta Farmstead Planning Service. Anyone interested in improving the appearance of the farmstead will certainly benefit from the text, as well as the numerous diagrams, plans and other illustrations which help to make more valuable, individual points of primary importance in farmstead planning.

Lists of various kinds are found in the

No. 7—in a series illustrating the increasing importance of radio in modern life.

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bulletin, indicating the height to which various trees and shrubs will grow. Drawings indicate the shape of certain trees and shrubs, while a number of ad-

ditional plans, charts and diagrams bring out all of the important features of farmstead planning in order to combine beauty with economy and utility.

### Third Saskatchewan Fruit Show

THAT Hon. I. C. Nollet, minister of agriculture for Saskatchewan, was right in suggesting that the Saskatchewan Provincial Fruit Show should become an annual event is proven by the official summary of the show issued by the secretary, D. R. Robinson.

Three hundred and sixty-six exhibits were provided by 68 exhibitors drawn from territories as far south in the province as township four, and as far north as township 56. From the latter township, J. Hartnett, of Big River, placed second as one of the most successful exhibitors north of township 42.

In other years, no fruit has been received from north of township 50, but this year exhibits were received from L. Puech, Sandall (township 51), E. McNelly, Mattes (township 52) and Mr. Hartnett. Of interest, too, is the fact that in Mr. McNelly's exhibit was a plate of Heyer No. 12, and the additional fact that the championship plate of crabapples consisted of the variety Rescue, grown by H. Boden, Cutknife. The variety Pembina, incidentally, won the championship in the plum classes.

Entries of small fruits, including raspberries, strawberries, gooseberries, red, white and black currants, were larger than in other years. Everbearing strawberries took the lead and Sparta, quite a new variety originated by A. J. Porter, of Parkside, carried off both first and second prizes.

Twenty-four seedling fruits were entered, including a two-inch apple seedling (grown by Mrs. B. Eaton, Hallonquist), crabapples, plums, and plum-sandcherry hybrids. There were also ex-

hibits of grapes, butternuts, chokecherries and high bush cranberries.

In all, there were, among the 366 entries (100 more than in 1944), 143 entries of crabapples, 43 entries of plums, and 35 of plum-sandcherry hybrids. The old standbys were naturally in evidence—Dolgo, with 29 entries, Osman with 21, Florence 18 and Rescue 10. Twenty-six crabapple varieties were represented in all including Columbia, Adam, Sylvia and Trail. There were also 17 varieties of apples, including 15 entries of Heyer No. 12, sixteen varieties of true plums, Assiniboine and Pembina having separate sections, while among the other varieties were McRobert, Dropmore Blue, Ojibwa, Olson, Bounty, Mina and Dandy.

A total of 135 prizes were awarded by R. M. Wilson, Gladstone, Manitoba, who judged the exhibits. Mr. Wilson has had a long acquaintance with prairie horticulture, having been for a time at Morden, and until fairly recently was horticulturist at the Dominion Experimental Farm, Indian Head. Though 14 of the 68 exhibitors were successful in carrying away 88 of the prizes, the remaining exhibitors were able to obtain a valuable experience, while the show as a whole, representing fruit specimens drawn from many different points in the province, undoubtedly possesses a marked educational value. The Extension Department of the University of Saskatchewan, which organized the show three years ago, and the Saskatchewan Horticultural Society Association, which jointly sponsored it, are to be congratulated.

### Lethbridge-Taber Needs Canning Tomato

AS soon as any district begins to produce new crops, it tends to develop a new type of farming for the area. This inevitably creates problems for the plant breeder who must immediately adapt the new crops more perfectly to their new surroundings.

The area around Lethbridge and Taber in southern Alberta is a case in point. During recent years cash crops have become increasingly prominent, so much so that canning factories have been established, and these, to be most satisfactory, must operate for as long a time during the season as possible. This in turn means a variety of canning crops from the immediate area to keep the factories supplied.

One additional canning crop that is needed in the Lethbridge-Taber area to round out crop production, is a good canning tomato. Work in this direction has been underway at the Dominion Experimental Station, Lethbridge, since

about 1936, when it was begun by Charles Walkof and, according to I. L. Nonnecke, now horticulturist at the station, multiplying plots will be grown in 1947 of a selection known as No. 2, first chosen in 1942 after several generations of a cross between two varieties (Farthest North and Polar Circle), which resulted in a hybrid known as L3700. This hybrid has been tested at a number of points in Alberta, and has proven very satisfactory for farm gardens. It has matured in every year it has been grown, in spite of the fact that, close to the mountains, the season for tomatoes is very short. As it stands today, L3700 is not a satisfactory canning variety because it lacks color. It is planned to use it as a parent in further crosses for canning purposes. An additional five years careful breeding work may perhaps be required before a suitable canning variety of tomatoes is secured.



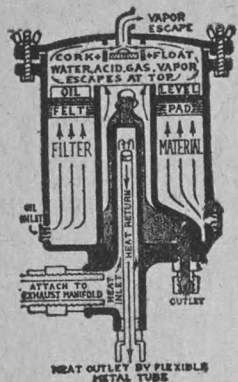
These are some of the tomatoes in breeding plots at Lethbridge, where I. L. Nonnecke, horticulturist, is working to produce a suitable canning variety for the district.

[Guide photo]



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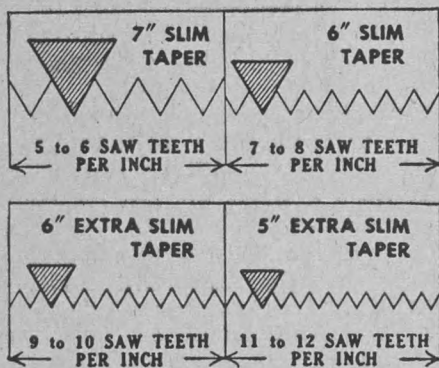
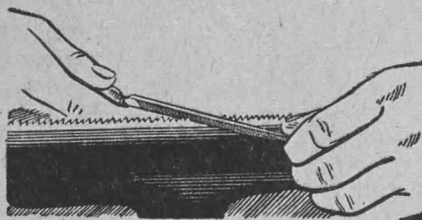
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### Radar-Controlled Seaport

**WORK** will shortly begin on the world's largest radar set, designed by United Kingdom scientists for the Mersey Docks and Harbor Board at Liverpool. When the set is completed and mounted on a 100-foot tower at Gladstone Dock, Liverpool will be the first port in the world to be governed by radar.

At present, many thousands of pounds sterling are lost through bad weather in harbors. Missing a tide costs an average cargo vessel from £200 to £800 (\$800-\$3,200), and storms and fog sometimes result in the missing of several tides. In addition, there is always considerable danger to life and property when vessels lose their bearing in foul weather. The Liverpool radar set will minimize these hazards by giving the position of all vessels within a radius of thirty miles, allowing pilots to be guided through bad weather and informed by radio of the whereabouts of other ships or obstructions of any kind.

The set has a giant screen more than ten feet square, whereas the usual screen now in use is only about one foot square. Instead of one cathode ray, it will have four separate tubes, to allow a detailed view of a particular area to be presented.

### Parliamentary Reporting

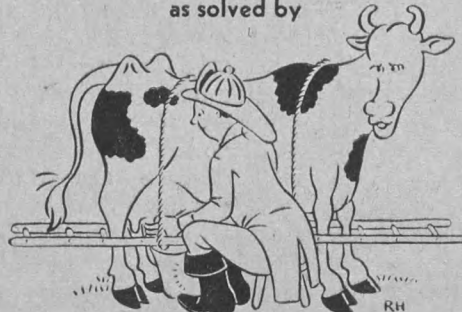
**THE** Press Gallery of the British House of Commons is a historic political institution. It is a self-governing body, with its own conventions, code of behavior and traditions resting, like everything else connected with Parliament, on the slow growth of centuries. Reporters had not actually a special gallery to themselves before 1835, but long before then Parliamentary debates were "reported," usually from gossip, memory or imagination.

E. R. Thompson, speaking to overseas listeners to the BBC, recalled recently that the great Samuel Johnson, as a starving scholar, was employed as a hack-writer to work up rough notes and jottings on the parliamentary debates into full reports for a newspaper. At the most he had a few jottings but from these he produced magnificent, rolling Johnsonian oratory. Years afterwards, at a dinner party given by Foote, the actor, in 1770, someone was praising a great oration delivered by the elder Pitt thirty years before. Johnson, who was among the guests, sat silent for a while, then growled out: "That speech I wrote, in a garret in Exeter Street."

Another famous reporter was "Memory" Woodfall, who was born exactly two hundred years ago and became a celebrity, almost a parliamentary institution. He used to sit by the hour through the debates with his eyes closed and his hands clasped over his stick, taking never a note. All he ever ate was a hard-boiled egg, the shell of which he peeled off into his hat. Then, at the adjournment he would walk to his newspaper office and there produce a report of the debates entirely from memory.

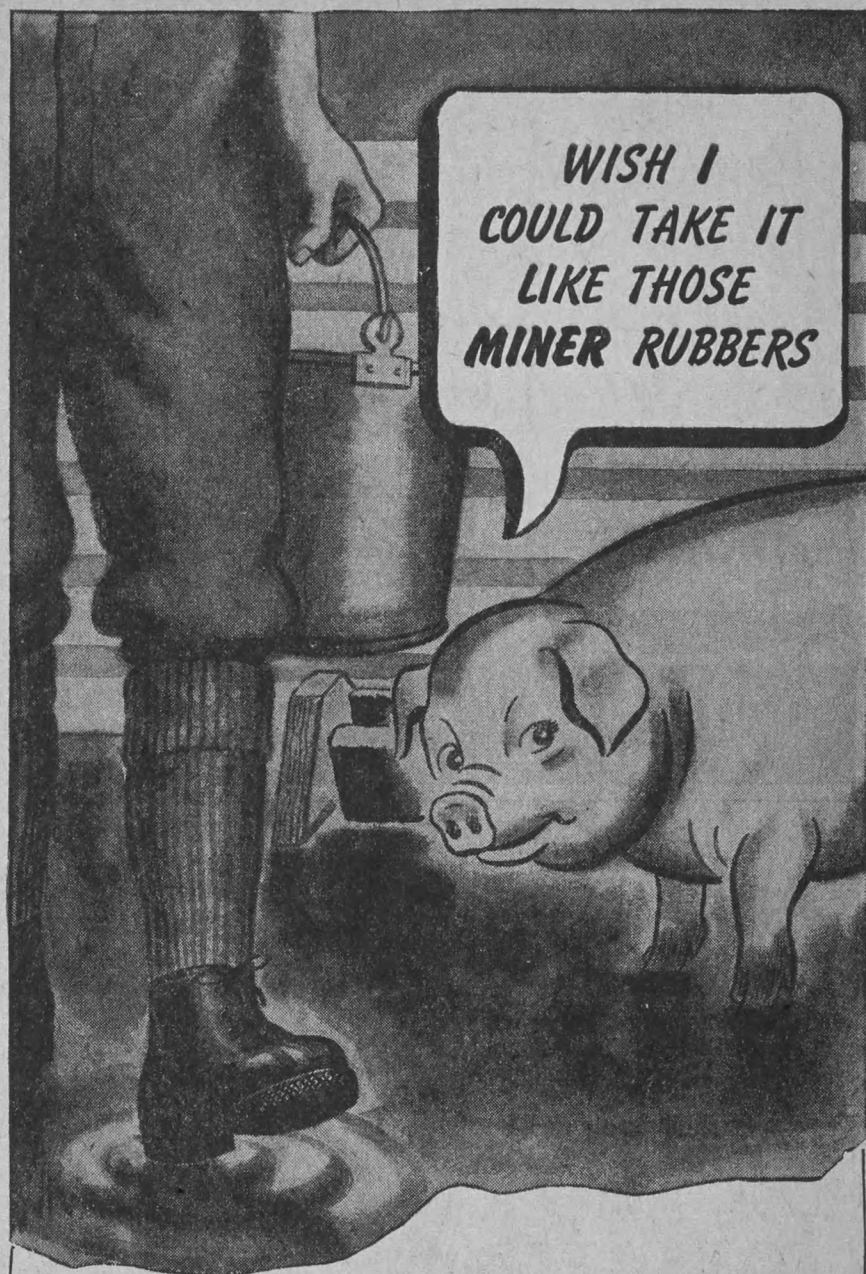
Many other distinguished writers have been parliamentary reporters but the greatest of them all was Charles Dickens, who was, incidentally, an expert shorthand writer and one of the first of the new school of reporters who took their notes in shorthand instead of longhand.

### A Dairyman's Problem as solved by



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### Straightening 2x4's

I have found that curved 2x4's can be salvaged and straightened in a very practical way with the aid of C clamps and can then be used for double plates and studs around doors and windows while framing buildings. The scantlings are laid face to face with an inward curve of one toward the outward curve of the other. First spike the two ends together and then the clamp is screwed

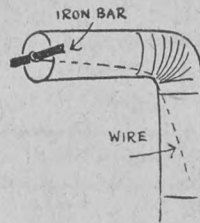


on in the middle until the wedges are brought together. They are spiked in this position and are ready to put in place in the building.—Paul Tremblay, St. Paul, Alta.

### Stove Pipe Holder

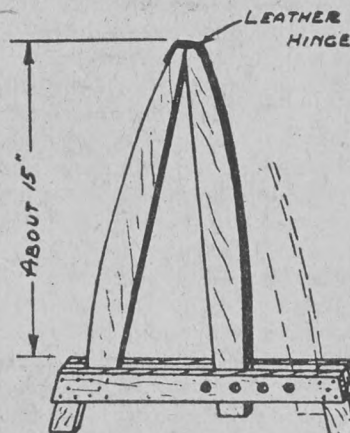
If you are troubled with your stove pipe slipping out of the chimney opening just take a small iron bar and fasten it to a piece of wire.

Slip it into the chimney as shown and bring the wire down one length of pipe below. Hook it over the bottom of this length and it will hold the pipe firmly in place.—J.G.W., Magrath, Alta.



### Wood Fur Stretchers

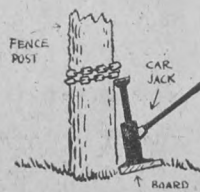
"Because of the shortages," says a correspondent, "I have been unable to buy any steel fur stretchers, so have made an adjustable one of wood which works to perfection. I made this as shown in two sizes, small for muskrats and large for skunks; and a few of each



size takes care of all my needs. The curved pieces are made of about 1½-inch stock; the side pieces at the bottom are one inch thick, and the supporting legs about two inches thick. If a short board is nailed to the leg and ends of the side pieces at each end, it will stand upright. The size can be varied by moving the right hand curved piece in or out and fastening by a nail or peg through the holes. A heavy strap or piece of tire makes a good hinge.—I.W.D.

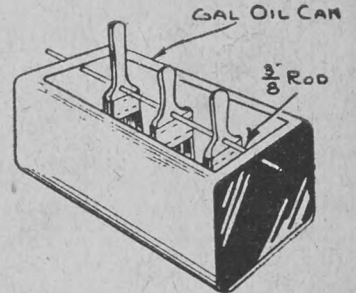
### Lifting Posts

If the fence post is stubborn and refuses to leave the hole, tie a chain onto the post and use the car jack to lift it out of the hole. Tying the chain as tightly as possible will prevent it from slipping up the post. A piece of wood at the base of the jack will assist it from sinking into the ground.—Adam Szczepanowski.



### Protecting Paint Brushes

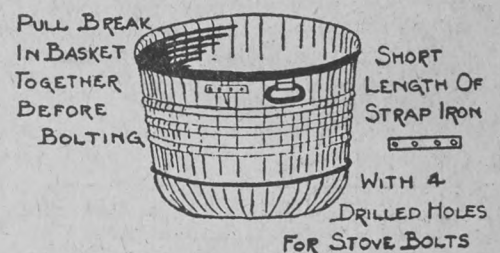
A reader gives this sketch of a method for protecting paint brushes. He suspended them in oil or water. But good brushes should not be allowed to soak



indefinitely in water, as it swells the bristles and injures their resiliency and ability to hold and transfer paint. They may be washed in turpentine or thinner and supported in raw linseed; or washed thoroughly and wiped as dry as possible and then wrapped in oil paper.—I.W.D.

### Basket Repair

A galvanized steel bushel basket or measure may break at the top rim, and if not repaired at once must be thrown away. To mend such a break, pull the broken edges together as well as you



can, cut a piece of light strap iron and bend it to fit the curve, drill about four holes, and fasten with rivets or stove bolts. Such a repair will last for years. To prevent scratched hands, the broken edges should be filed smooth and preferably be coated smoothly with solder.—I.W.D.

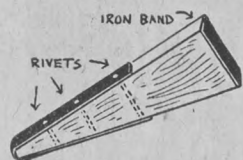
### Firewood Holder

Often when chopping kindling, pieces will fly high in the air and come down on one's head. To prevent this, cut a strip of old belting or tire about 4 inches wide by 24 inches in length and nail it in the form of a loop to the side of your chopping block, leaving a space about 5 inches in diameter above the edge. If you do happen to hit the gadget you will harm neither it nor the axe.—Robt. J. Roder, Reist, Alta.



### Strengthening Wooden Wedge

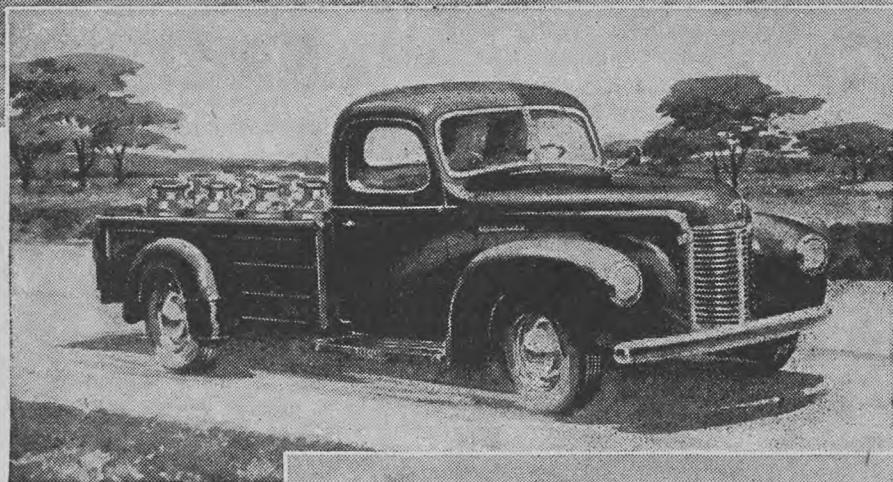
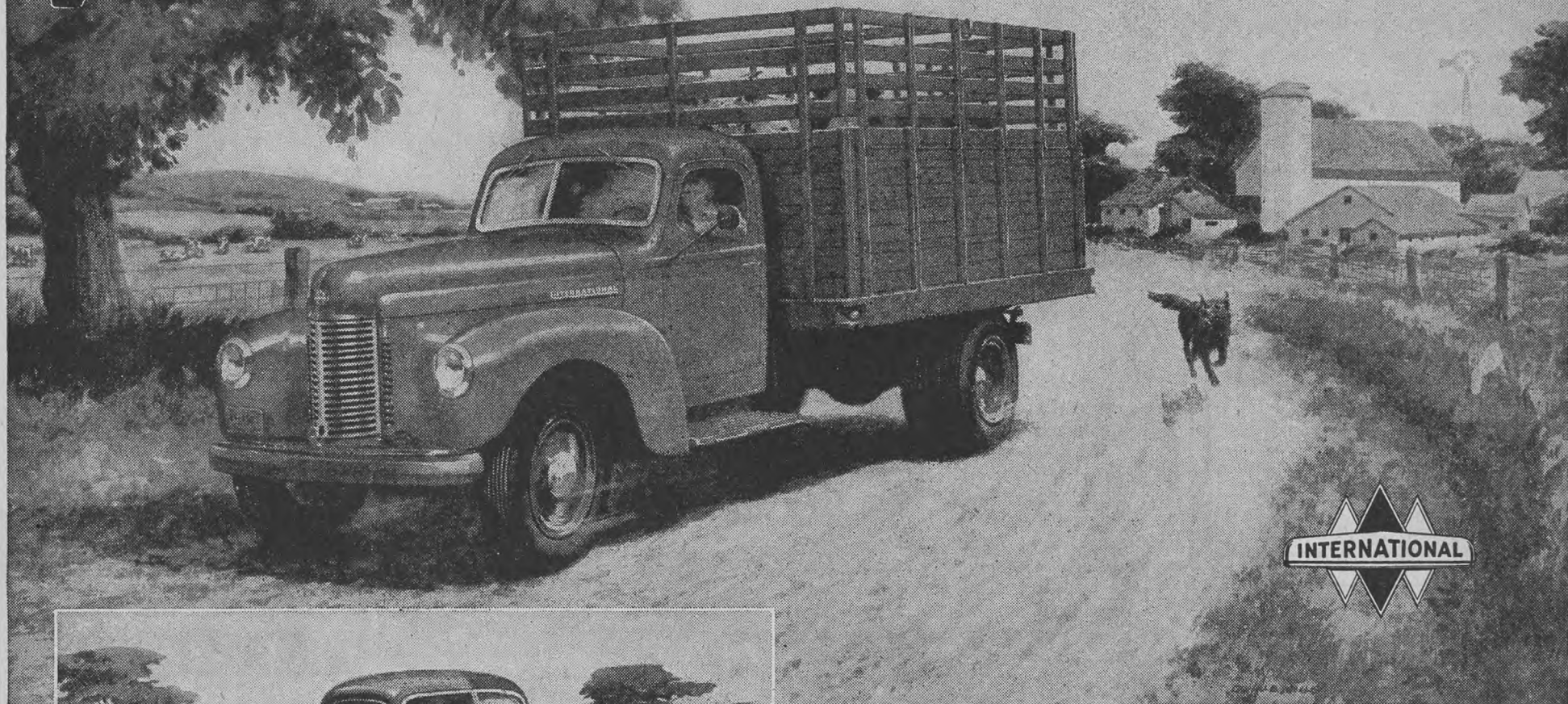
A wooden wedge that will not shatter or split is made by shoeing it with band iron held on by rivets as shown. Then on top of the wedge nail another piece of the same kind of iron. Use a wooden maul. The split is started with an iron wedge and the wooden one finishes the job. I often split rough logs eight feet long ready for the cordwood saw. The one I am using now has been in use for 10 years. I call it my separator. It is made of hard maple. Don't make one less than four inches wide.—Alex. Woods, Sicamous, B.C.





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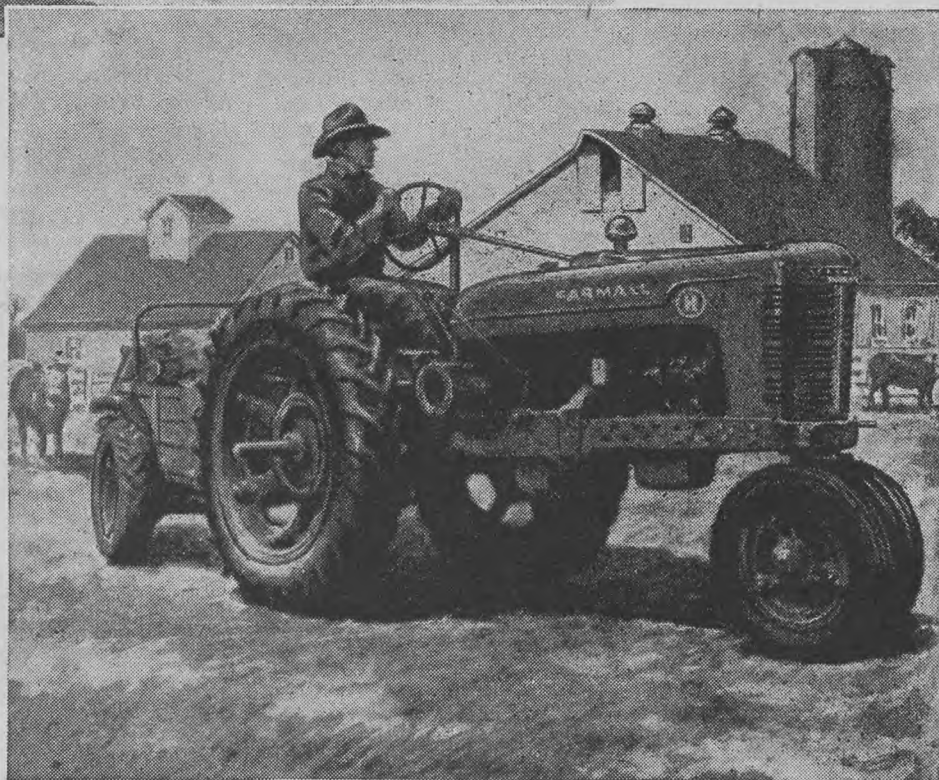


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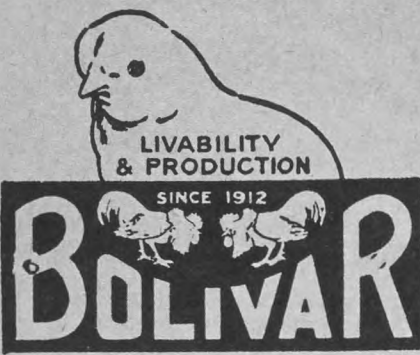
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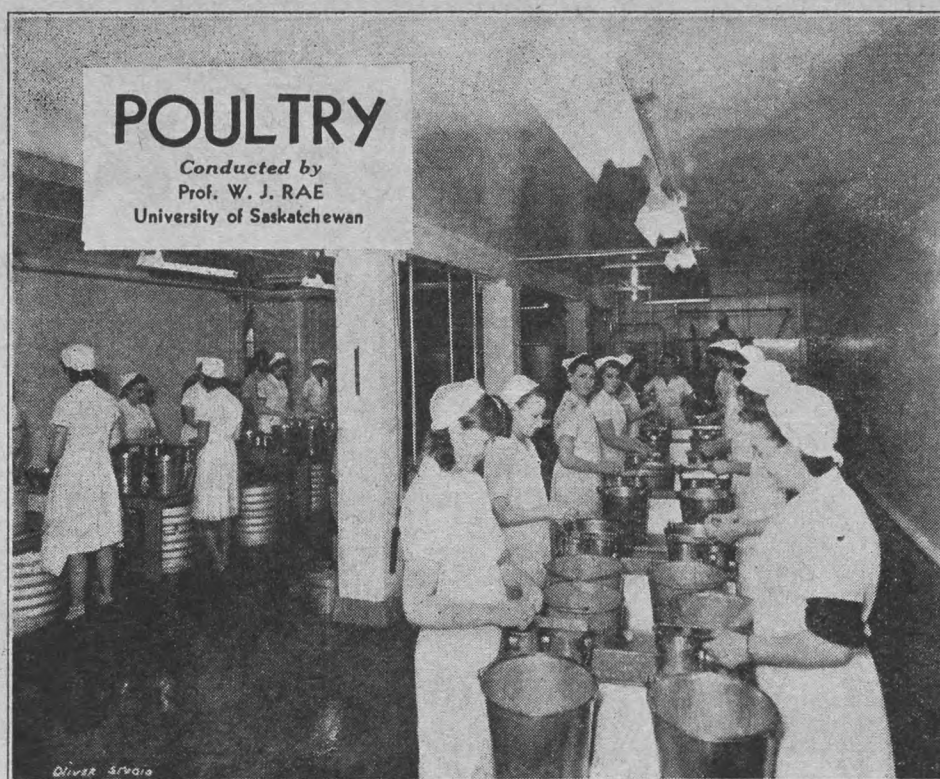
It is not too soon to place your order for your 1947 chicks. Waiting and shortages are the order of the day. Nearly everything is in short supply today and it is quite a common expression when we go into the stores to buy the innumerable things we require in our every day life to hear this "Sorry we haven't any and we don't know when we will." You can avoid being disappointed in your chick supply if you place your order today for your 1947 chicks and you will receive the breed of chicks you desire on the date or near the date you desire them. You can't lose by placing your order early and you stand a good chance of saving money. If the price of chicks increase you will receive your order at the price the order was booked at. If the price happens to drop, which it is not likely to do you will receive the benefit of any reduction in price. You have everything to gain and nothing to lose by placing your order now. Send for catalog and price list today. Meet us at the Winter Fair, our booth will be in the Poultry Industries Division. We will be glad to meet our customers and friends.

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Inside the breaking room of an egg-drying plant.

**A Wonderful Record**

CANADIAN hens have achieved a wonderful record during the past six years. Prior to 1939, the egg production of this country was just slightly more than enough to satisfy domestic needs; the surplus eggs were exported, chiefly to Great Britain. Very few people considered that the poultry industry was much more than a sideline to general agricultural production. Today the industry has become one of the major industries, commanding the respect of countless people who before the war looked upon the lowly hen as a creature of little significance. The 1945 estimate of the value of eggs and poultry produced is \$250 million. This wealth was produced by a poultry population numbering 57 million birds. Egg production alone for 1945 amounted to 374 million dozens. Compare this with 221 million dozens produced in 1939.

The story of the disposal of these huge quantities of eggs is indeed interesting. Canadians naturally consumed more eggs per capita, but the great achievement lies in the expansion of the market in Great Britain. Our hens responded nobly to the call for eggs for Britain. At first, shell eggs were shipped overseas, but with the acute shortage of shipping space and other war hazards, the whole marketing setup had to be changed overnight to permit the uninterrupted delivery of eggs, not in shell, but in powdered form.

Thirty-three times as many eggs were sent to Great Britain during the six years of war as were sent in the six years before 1939. These eggs certainly helped the people of the Old Country to maintain a diet containing some of the essential protective foods so necessary for the preservation of health. Deliveries of Canadian eggs to the British Ministry of Food reached an all time high of 2,949,643 thirty-dozen cases—a creditable record. Even this huge quantity of eggs was not sufficient to restore the prewar consumption of eggs in Great Britain. They need more eggs and want our eggs. Let us keep our 1945 record as the goal for future production. Canadian hens have demonstrated their ability. Let us help them keep up the good work.

#### Future Prospects

ELSEWHERE it has been pointed out that Canadian hens can produce eggs when the demand arises. Flock owners are to be congratulated for their efforts in maintaining high production during the war. What of the future? Prospects are indeed very bright for the

continuance of maximum production for at least two more years. Great Britain has negotiated with Canadian officials for the purchase of a minimum of 2,700,000 cases of eggs for each of the years 1947 and 1948, with the understanding that if in 1947 more than this number are available, they too can be sold under the same agreement. Canadian producers should have no complaint as to the lack of markets.

The market has been provided; now it is up to the Canadian hen and her flock owner to make every effort to fulfil this contract. The poultry industry is now developed to the status of a major agricultural industry and there is no reason why it should slip back into the secondary position it occupied twenty years ago. There is money in the poultry business if we can sell what we produce. The British contract provides for a steady outlet for large quantities of eggs. If for any reason we fail to supply a fairly large proportion of the eggs which Britain needs, there is every likelihood that we may lose this excellent market. No one wants ten-cent eggs again, but let me predict that if we do not maintain our production in the next two years, we may be wondering where to sell our eggs in 1949. The price is guaranteed. What more is needed to put the egg business on a level keel? Furthermore, the contract is so arranged to pay the Canadian producer a minimum of 29 to 30 cents a dozen, basis Grade A Large, at the local candling station, from January 21 to September 15, and a minimum of 35 to 37 cents per dozen basis Grade A Large, at the local candling station from September 15 to January 21.

The 1947 price structure is one cent a dozen higher for the spring period and two cents a dozen higher for the fall period than for the 1946 contract. Coupled with this egg market is an outlet for large quantities of dressed poultry. Britain needs lots of poultry. She cannot bargain for small lots of poultry, she needs millions of pounds. With these excellent prospects for 1947-48, let us bend every effort towards producing every possible egg our hens are capable of laying. With the assurance of a steady market for our eggs, surely we can plan our production program well in advance. Plan now to keep this year's pullets in top production throughout the winter, and through the year until next September. Check over the poultry equipment and see if it is not possible to raise at least 250 early chicks next spring and house 100 pullets in 1947-48. Better still, plan on a more efficient unit of two to three hundred layers.



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## RESCUE:--

## A New Wheat

Continued from page 8

and grown in a short row and this was repeated for two or three years. At the end of that time a portion of the rows ceased to break up. Then, instead of selecting individual plants, whole rows of the breeding plants were selected. These were the new "strains" and about 300 of them were obtained. These strains were then tested to make sure they had the re-combination of characteristics desired and, also, to learn which ones would be best suited for the district where they were likely to be needed.

Resistance of the new strains to sawflies was also tested in a series of nurseries located at Swift Current, Regina, Scott and Shaunavon in Saskatchewan, and Nobleford, Alberta. Nurseries at Brandon, Manitoba; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and Consort, Alberta, have also been used. To give the new strains a severe test, conditions were made as favorable as possible for sawflies. The strains failing to stand up to the test were discarded. In addition to resistance to sawflies, the new strains were tested for rust resistance at the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory, Winnipeg, where conditions are much more severe than any likely to be encountered in the field. Plants that were not resistant to rust or showed other undesirable characteristics in any of these tests, were discarded. From those that remained, seed was harvested and tested for milling and baking qualities in laboratories of the Cereal Division, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

To make sure that much needed new varieties are available as soon as possible, promising new types or lines of breeding must be increased even before all necessary tests are completed. An area of land was, therefore, rented by the Dominion Department of Agriculture from a farmer in the Imperial Valley in California. The land is almost at the corner of California, Arizona and Mexico. Hybrids were grown here in the winter months to save time; and a year was gained in developing Rescue by using the California land.

**R**ESCUE is a cross between rust-resistant Apex and New Zealand No. 615, and is resistant to stem rust, though susceptible to leaf rust and bunt. Counterbalancing its innate defects, Rescue yields as well as Thatcher and matures only a day later. It also produces a much better seed sample than Thatcher—higher in bushel weight and does not bleach so readily. Though resistant to onslaughts of the sawfly, Rescue is not equal to Marquis in bread-making quality and consequently will grade no higher than No. 3 Northern. This defect in Rescue is in the relatively low ability of the flour to take up water readily. Release of a variety inferior in quality would not ordinarily be permitted, but approval has been given in this

instance because of the seriousness of the sawfly situation and the world shortage of food.

The actual resistance of Rescue to sawfly damage is best measured by the percentage of heads "cut" by the sawfly. Comparisons with other varieties such as Thatcher and Apex in the years 1943-1945, show that over the three-year period, and averaging a number of different localities and different degrees of infestation, the average of wheat stocks cut in Rescue was seven per cent, which compared with 72 per cent for Thatcher.

In 1944 at Shaunavon, Rescue was "cut" 2½ per cent and Apex 75 per cent, while at Swift Current the following year, the damage to Apex was 86 per cent and to Rescue one per cent. Rescue was also planted in Montana in 11 observation nurseries throughout the sawfly-infested area of that State. On the average, non-resistant varieties such as Thatcher, Pilot, Ceres and Apex suffered 66 per cent damage, with only seven per cent for Rescue. Rescue, nevertheless, may show some damage in some districts. This has been particularly the case at Regina, Saskatchewan.

**T**HE new wheat is an example of a special-purpose variety, introduced solely to achieve one end, namely, the control of the sawfly menace. It is not recommended for any other purpose, nor is it likely that, once multiplied so that it will be available where needed in the sawfly area, it will remain in general use even there, for any length of time. If grown widely in a district for two or three years, it is expected to rapidly reduce sawfly population, after which farmers will probably be able to return to the use of recommended varieties of higher quality. Meanwhile, the cerealists and plant breeders, the plant pathologists and entomologists, the cereal chemists and other agencies, both commercial and governmental, will continue their efforts, either to further improve Rescue wheat or to evolve some other sawfly-resistant variety which will combine cultural desirability with market quality. In the meantime, farmers in western Canada are being urged to continue to practise cultural methods of sawfly control—the seeding of trap strips, delayed seeding, and the sowing of coarse grains.

Approximately 8,000 bushels of Rescue wheat were available for distribution to selected growers to be multiplied next year. Even now, applications are being received by Dominion Experimental Stations for limited quantities of Rescue wheat to be seeded in 1947; and the expectation is that with the normal crop in 1947 there may be enough Rescue for general distribution in 1948.

Seed of Rescue for 1947 sowing will be distributed, presumably in the same way, through each of the Dominion Experimental Stations. Thus the arrangement announced from Lethbridge, for southern Alberta, where 21 farms will have seed for sale, probably represents the general procedure. Ten bushels of Rescue wheat will be sold to each bona fide farmer applicant for his own use, at \$2.00 per bushel, plus the cost of sacks and transportation charges. Applications containing the applicant's name, post office address, nearest railway station and land location, should be sent to the nearest grower, or the nearest experimental station, where applications will be filled, in the order received. No money should be sent. When seed is available, applicants will receive notice from which grower they are to take delivery, and payment will then be made direct to the grower indicated in the notice.



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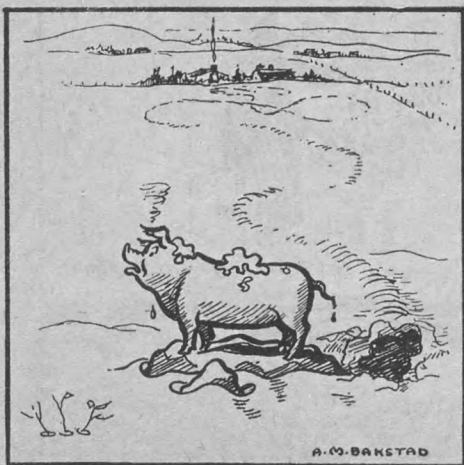
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## THE SILVER BUGLES

Continued from page 6

Dan got blowing his silver bugle on Armistice Day.

"These we will never forget," Reverend Randall said. He said it every year just before he ended up the service with the prayer. Then the rifles cracked out their blank shells and when all was hushed quiet again Little Dan would kind of give his mouth a quick wipe with the back of his hand and put up his silver bugle and play the Last Post. Like I said, some of the women cried every year. Some of the men would even cry, though we pretended not to notice. Once in a while us kids, even, would have a hard time to keep from being sissies. It wasn't that we knew what it was all about; it was just that Little Dan's bugle music did something to us as it went ringing across the hills to the far sky.

Then the Armistice Day came when Little Dan wasn't standing there to one side, near the flag pole. We were all lined up and the Reverend Randall had spoken his sermon and said what he usually said and prayed. When he finished praying, just before Captain Knowland gave the nod to Sergeant Jenson in charge of the firing party, Reverend Randall left his place and he and the Captain had a word together and they came over to Bandmaster Morton and spoke to him. Next, Cholly Cram went over beside the flag pole, looking kind of proud. He stood there with his bugle resting on his hip at attention and Captain Knowland nodded to the sergeant and the rifles banged off their blanks and then Reverend Randall nodded towards Cholly.

So Cholly Cram played the Last Post that time.

"It's a big improvement," said someone behind us.

"I should say so," said another.

THE rest of the crowd stayed quiet, except for the men lined up. The returned soldier men, I mean; the farmers and the town-men who were all lined up stiff in front of the monument. Some of them couldn't keep themselves quiet. You could hear them cry, clean over to where us Scouts stood.

But us kids didn't have any trouble about keeping well behaved that time.

If you want to know the truth, Cholly Cram played that Last Post piece just exactly right. I've seen it in our bugle books and followed the notes over one by one; Cholly got every note just right. Yet it still sounded like ordinary bugle music, like we have when we practise.

"Where's Little Dan?" some of us wanted to know.

"Shhhhhh!" said Bandmaster Morton. "Hust yer wheest, noo, an' stand still!"

We stood quiet and listened to Cholly play, and I heard a man whisper that Little Dan must be pretty bad this time. Then another said they should have Cholly Cram play it every year from now on. The last notes died away, right there at the monument and not away across the hills like they did when Little Dan played.

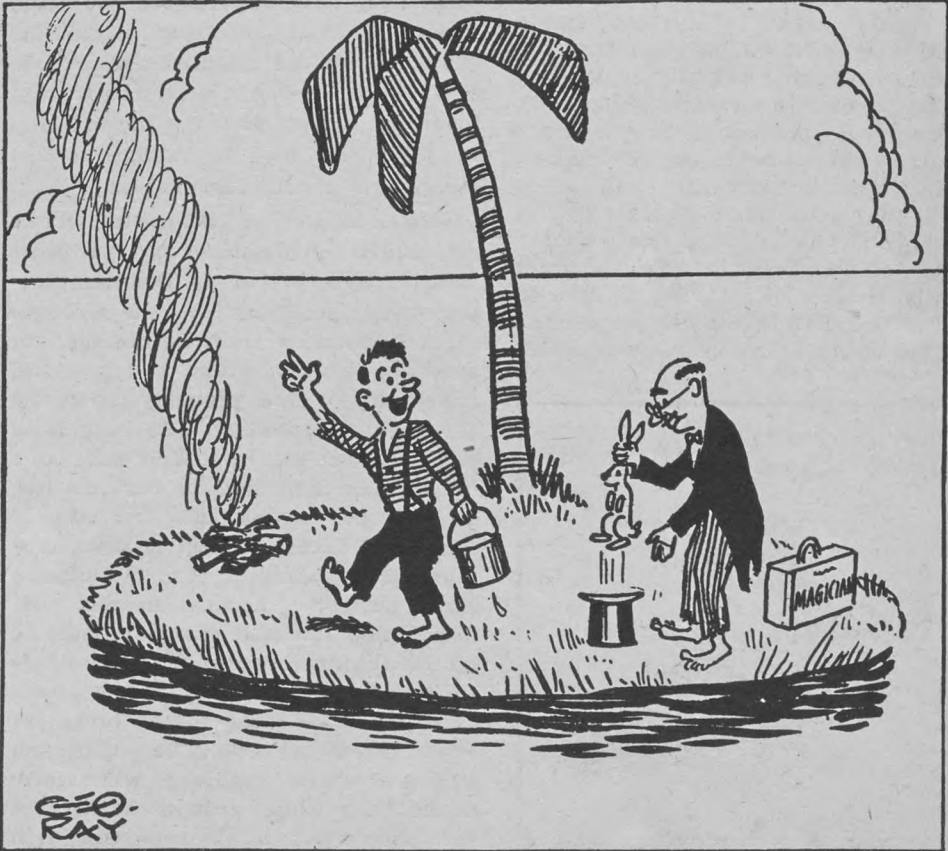
It was all over, and us Scouts went back to the basement of the Farm Market and got dismissed. Bandmaster Morton told us to show up after dinner for the sports, because we'd been asked to play. It was a sports contest for all our part of the province and was going to last all afternoon.

"Tell yer folks ye'll get supper, for free," Bandmaster Morton said. "The Committee'll feed us at the hall, an' Ah dinna want any carry-ons, mind. Ye'll maun behave yersel' or Ah'll know why not."

Then I got the silver bugle. Right after we'd been dismissed Bandmaster Morton grabbed me and said he'd promised to lend a bugle to a friend in Longview, the next town. They wanted a bugle for their Armistice Supper and he was going to let his friend have my bugle. I guess he didn't want to lend his silver bugle out of town, nor he couldn't lend Cholly Cram's fancy brass one because Cholly owned it himself. But my troop-owned bugle was the next best we had, even though I was back in the second line of buglers. We'd drawn numbers for the instruments and I'd been lucky and got the best of the troop-owned bugles. I kept it slick and shiny and hadn't marred it with a single dent so Bandmaster Morton took it to lend to his friend and he said he'd give me his silver bugle to play that afternoon and I could take it home to keep in practice till my own was returned.

"An' if ye drap it, laddie, or scratch it in one way what-so-ever, mind, Ah'll skin ye alive!"

Boy! I promised every way I knew to take good care of it, and raced home for dinner and was first back at the basement, even though we lived a whole





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mile from town. When we lined up to march to the fair grounds where the sports were to be held, Bandmaster Morton handed me his silver bugle.

But I couldn't tell how it sounded, with eleven other bugles all blowing around me. Finally the afternoon finished and we had our free eats and got dismissed.

"Dinna ill-use ma guid bugle, noo," Bandmaster Morton repeated to me, half scowling. "Troop—shun! Practise yon Monkey piece all week, for there's some o' ye that dinna ken it guid enough yet. There's a parade next week they're wantin' us for, so practise all yer pieces an' turn oot early. A-richt, noo. Troop—Dis-missss!"

Seems like every friend I had wanted to chum with me then, on account of me having the silver bugle. Even Cholly Cram wanted to blow through it. But I lived more than a mile out and at last I was left alone on the road and tenderly carried the beautiful instrument.

"I'll go up the hill," I decided to myself. "I'll go up Bonner's Mount and play every piece I know."

Bonner's Mount is our highest height of land in all the Valleyhill district. It was a little off the road to home, but it wasn't every day that I got my hands on a silver bugle. The sunset was still bright, with crimson on the clouds that were fluffed up in the west. The town was nearly a mile away, and away below the Mount in the Valley. I could see dust rise from the fair grounds road as the people went home from the sports, and I saw the shine of the creek and the line of dark spruces that grew on its banks. Nearby all the poplar and birch had lost their leaves, and the stooks were gone from the wheat fields and the straw stacks were heaped high amid the empty stubble. But it all looked pretty nice right then in the evening sun, and I raised up the silver bugle, drew a deep breath, and then I saw Little Dan.

HE was right on the crest of the hill, lying flat on his back with his hands folded behind his head. His silver bugle was on his chest, and I guess that's what I saw first. But next I saw that Little Dan's watery eyes were fastened on me, so I lowered my bugle right away.

Little Dan sat up.

"Go ahead and play," he urged.

But I shook my head, feeling like I'd been caught showing off. Little Dan waited a little and then reached out and took Bandmaster Morton's bugle and asked how I came to have it. He held the two silver bugles side by side and you could tell that Bandmaster Morton's was new. Even so, Little Dan's bugle looked cleaner, somehow, even though the silver didn't shine so bright as the new bugle.

Then Little Dan glanced up at me.

"Do you ever play from the hill here?"

"No, sir . . . That is, only once. That was when I first got my bugle. I came up here to try it, but I couldn't play."

"And tonight you wanted to try out the silver bugle, eh?"

"Yes. I played it this afternoon with the band, but I wanted to hear how it sounded alone."

"It's the right idea," said Little Dan.

"I come here often, myself."

That surprised me, because I'd never heard him play from the hill and our farm is close by. I told him that, and he smiled and balled up his hankie and pushed it into the bell-end of his bugle.

"That's why you don't hear me," he explained.

"But why muffle it?" I demanded. "Shucks, it'd sound fine from the hill-top."

Little Dan's face kind of changed, then. For a while he didn't speak, keeping his eyes on his bugle. He'd handed back Bandmaster Morton's to me.

"Were you at the monument, this morning?" he asked in a low sort of voice.

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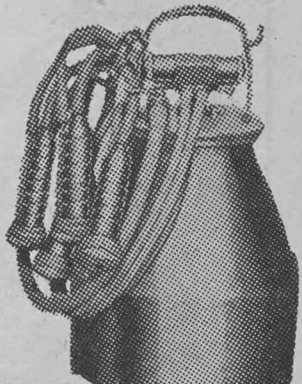
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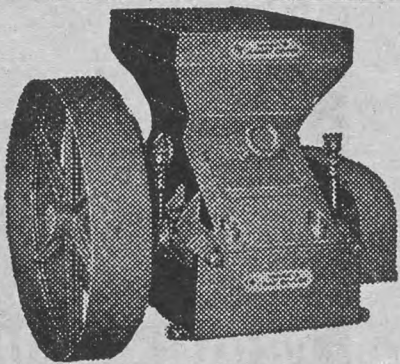
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"Yes."

"Did they— Who played the Last Post?"

"Cholly Cram did."

Little Dan nodded. "I thought it was him. I could hear it from here."

"Why didn't you come yourself?"

He rubbed the back of his hand over his mouth.

"Sonny, I shouldn't ask you, but did you hear any of the people whispering like they usually do?"

I shifted my feet, hesitating, then blurted out a lie and said no, I hadn't heard any.

Little Dan smiled.

"Thanks, boy," he said. "I knew they would. And they're a right to. I know that. I've measured it out before, for and against. Today I've been at it all day."

I didn't know what he was talking about, exactly, except that he knew I'd been lying about the whispers.

"Only, they haven't got the memories," he went on. "Some of the men know what I'm thinking about when I play the Last Post. Some know why I have to nerve myself up, the way I've done. I've played that piece over the graves of the finest men I'll ever know. One time, back in the early days of the war before they took to using whistles, I played the Charge. The boys went out and got beat. I played the Last Post that time, too, after playing the call that sent them out to die."

HE wasn't speaking to me; he was trying to explain something to himself.

"Oh, it was nothing that I could change. But every time I stand there at the monument, every time I raise up this silver bugle that some of those boys gave me, I got to nerve myself up to play it right."

"Well, you sure play it good," I said, and meant it.

Little Dan looked at me again.

"Thanks, sonny. Say, d'you know the Last Post?"

"Well—Yes, I do. Though I never played it anywhere but just at home."

Little Dan got up. He stood about my height, even though he was a grown man and had been in the war. He took my hand and led me over to the edge of the hill, where you can best see Valleyhill. But this time the sun had gone and the dusk was coming on fast. All the lights were winking on in the town, and the creek had faded into the dark and only the nearby things showed plain to the eyes.

"Did the Reverend Randall say those words again?" Little Dan asked, "you know the ones—These We Will Never Forget?"

"Yes, sir."

Little Dan nodded and swung up his bugle. Then he lowered it down and spoke to me again.

"Aim your bugle at the sky, Sonny. Aim it at that red cloud up there. See? We'll play the Last Post together."

So I swung up my bugle, feeling kind of eager. Maybe I missed the first note or two, but Little Dan's music didn't fumble at all. I joined in the best I could, and those two silver bugles sent out the clear, sad notes ringing across the valley, across the hills, aimed at the red cloud just above where the sun had gone down.

When we were done we could hear the echoes come back clear and sweet and beautiful. The red cloud had turned kind of golden, then it was dark.

"Remembering isn't hard," Little Dan said, like he was once more talking to himself. "That's easy enough, for those who care. But it's hard to remember the promises, and everybody made promises."

He sent me home then. And all the way home I could hear that sky-aimed music ring in my ears.

I never saw Little Dan again. He went away, but he left his silver bugle there at Valleyhill with the returned soldiers' club, and they've got it in a glass case and won't let anyone play it.

### Swans of The Thames

MANY old English inns have quaint and curious signs, the origins of which have been forgotten or which the common tongue of centuries has twisted into something quite different from the original. For instance the inn sign "The Goat and Compasses" is a corruption of "God Encompasseth us," and "The Elephant and Castle" is said to be a corruption of "The Infanta of Castile." Speaking in the BBC program "Radio Trek" recently, Rose Mary Sands told of the famous inn sign "The Swan with two Necks," which, she said, was originally "The Swan with two Nicks." From long custom all swans on the river Thames are private property and belong to one of three owners—the King, the Worshipful Company of Vintners or the Worshipful Company of Dyers. Swans with two nicks on their beaks belong to the Vintners, with one nick to the Dyers, and with none to the King.

Every August for five hundred years a ceremony called "Swan-upping" has taken place. A number of men take boats and row up the river Thames, cornering the new cygnets and painlessly marking their beaks with the signs of ownership. It is a week's expedition, covering sixty miles of river. In the old days it was a very festive occasion, with music and feasting. Even today, it is a colorful sight. The King's men wear bright red jerseys and white cotton trousers, the Dyers' blue jerseys and white trousers, and the Vintners' blue and white striped jerseys and stocking caps with a blue tassel on the end. In past days the swans were fattened and served at City banquets, but now their only purpose is to look decorative on the Thames and there are no privileges of ownership. It is just one of these old customs.

### What a Four Cent Stamp Will Do

A FEW weeks ago Don Hollenbeck, a well known American radio news commentator, sat before the microphone at WJZ in New York. It was exactly seven a.m. One minute before, at 6.59, the station broadcast the Marlin razor-blade commercial, a boy-and-girl one-minute singing spot. The girl sang: "He can hold his cheek close to mine." Boy: "And I do." Girl: "Hold me tight, steal a kiss any time." Boy: "Wouldn't you?" Girl: "In fact I'm his most willing slave." Both together: "The man with the Marlin shave."

Hollenbeck, sitting there holding his script, suddenly boiled over. He wasn't sponsored by Marlin, and when he was given the "on-the-air" signal he made a point of telling his listeners flatly and bitterly that the atrocity they had just heard had no connections with his program. At eleven o'clock the same morning Hollenbeck was out of a job.

The newspapers and the listeners got hold of it and backed his courage and his rights. Although it was only a local broadcast, letters began to stream into the station; Hollenbeck himself received 250. Three weeks later, Don Hollenbeck returned to the air—sponsored by the Marlin Razor Blade Company.

The point is that radio and the advertisers who depend upon radio to sell their products are extremely sensitive to criticism and praise as reflected by letters from the listeners. It is a notorious fact in the industry that intelligent listeners rarely bother to write, while letters from Ma Perkins and Frank Sinatra fans are received by the bushel. The ABC broadcast of John Hersey's "Hiroshima," over a national hookup, received only about 300 letters; CBS received 396 letters after its excellent "Operation Crossroads" broadcast and the Philharmonic averages around 92 letters a week.—From THE NEW REPUBLIC.



# Problem of Marketing Malting Barley

A page of Monthly Commentary furnished by United Grain Growers Ltd.

## Beer or Bacon?

Beer or bacon,—which should be produced from barley grown in western Canada? To ask that question is perhaps an over simplification of the present situation in respect to marketing of barley, but at least it is a simplification. Barley is being diverted from the production of beer to the production of bacon. The Canadian beer consumer is not being deprived to any great extent on that account. It is the case, however, that malting barley, which might go to produce beer in the United States, is being diverted so that more hogs can be fed in eastern Canada. The American maltster and the American brewer experience some difficulties on that account, and it may be that beer in the United States is somewhat scarcer or of poorer quality than would otherwise be the case. That fact does not necessarily worry the Canadian barley grower. What does worry him is the fact that he is being deprived of a very profitable market south of the border, that he is getting very much less for his barley than would otherwise be the case, and that he has to consider whether it really pays to produce high quality malting barley, or whether it would pay better to produce higher yielding varieties suitable only for feed.

During the later years of the war there was no doubt about the urgent need for bacon overseas. Nor was there any doubt of the moral duty of Canadian producers to supply those things which would contribute most to the war effort. Western grain producers willingly accepted limitations on their income and temporary loss of profitable markets in order that their efforts might contribute in a maximum degree to the prosecution of the war. Now they are beginning to wonder how long the present restrictions which hamper their efforts should be prolonged and if the man who can and wants to grow malting barley is not being called upon for a disproportionate sacrifice. The barley situation is complicated. In part this is due to the fact that the barley market is much more selective than the market which prevails for any other grain. Not only is malting barley essentially a different commodity from feed barley but there are many different uses for malt and the maltster picks and chooses his raw material depending upon whether his product will be used for beer, ale or stout, whiskey or industrial alcohol, breakfast food, malted milk, or in some other form. Prior to the war there was very little export demand for Canadian malting barley. Canadian maltsters needed about six million bushels annually, against a present need of ten million bushels. Constantly trying to improve the quality of their product, they were willing to pay higher prices for suitable barley than prevailed for feed grades and in addition were accustomed to pay a premium of from three to five cents per bushel on cars of barley they selected for use. They did not buy on grade but rather on sample. Agricultural authorities, malting companies, and grain interests had for many years conducted an occasional campaign for the production of better malting barley and a considerable number of farmers, more particularly in Manitoba, had become specialized producers of malting barley.

The war brought important changes in the barley situation. First of these was the price ceiling imposed late in 1941. The top grades of barley were established at 64½ cents, plus a premium for selected cars of five cents a bushel. Consequently 64½ cents became the ceiling price for all grades of barley, plus the premium when applicable. The

demand for feeding barley grew so rapidly that all grades soon were selling at ceiling price. Quality differentials were wiped out. Because lower grades carry a higher permissible content of weed seeds than the higher grades some farmers found it actually more profitable to produce and sell lower grades than the higher grades. Other farmers decided that the available premium of five cents a bushel was not enough to compensate for lower yields obtainable from varieties suitable for malting and switched to growing higher yielding varieties suitable only for feed.

In 1942 a strong demand for Canadian feed grains developed in the United States. Exporters could make a profit, and sometimes a large profit, through buying oats and barley in Canada at ceiling prices and re-selling them to the United States. There was strong pressure on the government to remove ceiling prices on these grains. Instead, the government devised a policy of export permits, for which a fee was charged in order to equalize Canadian ceiling prices with values in the United States. The idea was to distribute the amount received among producers so that all would share equally in the benefit of any export sales made. That, at first, imposed no special hardship on producers of malting barley for the original demand from the United States was for feed grain.

## Demand for Malting Barley

The export demand soon shifted from barley for feeding to barley for malting. That is both because barley is not regarded as an important feed grain in the United States and because there was a great increase in the demand for malt. Not only did the high rate of employment prevailing increase consumption of beer, great quantities of malt were also required in the production of industrial alcohol. Malt is a necessary added ingredient when wheat is used as the source of alcohol instead of corn which used to be the standard grain for that purpose.

Concurrently with the increased demand for malting barley in the United States, barley production declined as farmers found other crops more profitable. Prices for malting barley in the United States soared and so also did the equalization fees charged for permits to export Canadian barley. When the rate reached 50 cents per bushel in 1943 it seemed high, but recently it has been almost doubled. That fee, established as it is on the basis of malting barley prices, is prohibitive for feed barley. Consequently it is only malting barley which can be exported. Thus, whatever sums are now earned from equalization fees for export permits are earned on malting barley. That fact is important to the producers of such barley because they get no corresponding benefit.

To explain that last statement it is necessary to look at the equalization fee payments actually made to producers. The first intention was to distribute the money collected at the end of a crop year among all farmers marketing barley during that period. Then, as an encouragement to the production of barley for feed, and to offset the fact that exports were being limited in order to conserve barley for feeding in Canada, the government began to pay an advance of 15 cents per bushel, against equalization fees, at time barley was marketed. This at times has meant a direct loss to the government, because when exports were limited the amount actually realized from equalization fees was less than the advance payment. Such loss may be considered as being incurred by the government for the

benefit of eastern farmers, so that more barley may be available to them for feeding purposes. In form, however, it is a payment to the barley producer as compensation for the fact that he is denied direct access to the American market, or the higher price that would prevail in Canada if there were no price ceiling. Undoubtedly that 15 cents per bushel is no more than a reasonable payment to be made under such circumstances to the farmer who produces feed barley. It can be argued, however, that such additional payment to the man who produces feed barley ought to be at the expense, either of the eastern buyer of such barley or at the expense of the government. It seems unreasonable that it should be provided, as is now the case, at the expense of the malting barley producers upon whose grain, and whose grain alone, any equalization fees are now earned. At least that would be the logical argument at times when barley is actually being exported. Recently, however, the export of barley has been restricted either by equalization fees so high as to be intended to be prohibitive, or by direct prohibition. The result has been that barley which might be sold to the United States for malting has been forced into the eastern feed market for the benefit of hog producers there. The choice of bacon instead of beer has been deliberately made. One result is that many producers of malting barley suitable for the American market have been deprived of the opportunity to get the extra five cents per bushel that might have been obtained had their carloads of barley been accepted for malting by exporters. That, however, is a very small part of the loss incurred by producers of malting barley under present restrictions. With freedom to market they would be able to realize at least twice as much for their product as they now get.

## If Price Goes Up

Now, of course, if the price of malting barley goes up, the Canadian maltster would have to get more for his malt and quite possibly the brewer will have to get more for his beer. The relation of the Canadian price ceiling policy to such a possibility has to be examined. Important in that respect is the fact that the excise duty on malt is 16 cents a pound, equivalent to \$5.76 on every bushel of barley used for that purpose. When the duty is so large the actual price paid for barley which is malted cannot be very important to the ultimate consumer or to the immediate manufacturer. It cannot be very important in the price structure whether the Canadian maltster pays on the basis of 69¼ cents per bushel for his barley or \$1.50 per bushel as almost certainly he would have to pay under present conditions if it were not for restrictions.

Canadian policy in respect to malting barley prices and export runs directly counter to a recent development in Canadian grading policy. When maltsters in the United States began buying Canadian barley in quantity they found the Canadian grading system objectionable because in the malting grades there was formerly allowed an admixture of smooth awned and rough awned barley varieties, as they are classified by the grower or of blue and yellow varieties as buyers and graders think of them. The grading had not bothered the Canadian maltsters who select individual cars for his purpose. It did bother American purchasers, most of whom were buying on grade instead of on sample. The grower, it needs to be explained, often finds it easier to harvest and to thresh the smooth awned barleys which are mostly yellow. While

the Canadian maltsters prefers the blue barleys, which are mostly rough awned, the American maltster is quite glad to get the yellow varieties providing only that they are kept separate and he does not have to process yellow and blue varieties together. On recommendation of the National Barley Committee the Board of Grain Commissioners, early in 1945, sent Dr. Anderson, chief chemist, and T. J. Harrison, assistant commissioner, to the United States to make a thorough study of the situation. They reported a large potential market in the United States and a need for a change in barley grades if that market were to be properly developed. Accordingly, on August 1, 1945, new barley grades were made effective. Henceforth the grades 2 C.W. six row barley and 3 C.W. six row barley were to consist only of blue varieties and two new grades, 2 C.W. yellow and 3 C.W. yellow were established. High hopes were entertained in the U.S. and in Canada that a large trade might be developed on the basis of these grades. Almost immediately after, however, these hopes were dissipated. The government, through the Feeds Administrator, prohibited the export of barley entirely so that larger supplies might be available for the eastern feed market. As a result, practically no barley was exported during the crop year 1945-46. In September of 1946 the Feeds Administrator modified the prohibition so as to permit the export of a small quantity of barley. The change, however, is more nominal than real because equalization fees, recently as high as 95 cents per bushel, have been kept at a prohibitive level.

One result of all this is that the western producer of malting barley is undergoing a heavy sacrifice for the benefit of the eastern feeder of hogs, who gets a considerable bonus from the government in the form of free freight on feed grains from the head of the lakes to eastern destinations. Another is that the farmer who might be producing malting barley is raising other crops, either wheat or feed grain. That is the temporary aspect of the situation. Perhaps even more important is the permanent aspect. Right now a campaign is being carried on in the mid-western United States for increased production of malting barley. The American buyers, if they cannot get supplies from Canada, will have to develop sources of supply in their own country. The loss of the potential market there may be serious in later years.

## Heavy Demand for Canadian Wheat

The present demand overseas for Canadian wheat is much greater than supplies available for immediate shipping. It seems clear also that the total demand for the year will be greater than can be supplied from existing stocks. Quite probably at the end of the crop year, on July 31 next, the Canadian wheat carry-over will be just as low as it was on July 31 last. Actually, some considerable increase in the carry-over would have been quite satisfactory. Events of recent months have shown that in order to do a maximum export business it is necessary to have large stocks available in many different positions, and to keep filled the channels of supply for different ports. When, as happened recently, supplies in different positions become exhausted, a temporary cessation of flow takes place. In such a case would-be purchasers are forced either to go without wheat supplies or to look elsewhere to have their

Turn to page 37



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This week's prices at Vancouver (Canada's largest primary fur market) for good average lots of first and second quality furs: Badger, \$4.10; Beaver, \$31; Coyote, \$6.20; Ermine, \$2.22; Fisher, \$62; Jack Rabbit, 61c; Lynx, \$44; Marten, \$63.50; Mink, \$28; Muskrat, \$2.32; Otter, \$32.45; Raccoon, \$2.45; Skunk, \$1.95; Squirrel, 92c. Ship a sample skin (or a hundred) today to J. H. Munro, (an actual manufacturer and Canada's Gold Medal Furrier since 1926) at 1363 Kingsway, Vancouver; you are safe when you ship to Munro. Especially wanted: Seneca Root at \$2.10 lb.; Beaver Castor, \$7.00 lb.

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## NEIGHBORLY NEWS

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#### Retires as Travelling Inspector

It is with sincere regret that we announce the retirement of Robert Sumner, as travelling inspector for the United Grain Growers Limited. Mr. Sumner asked to be relieved of his duties owing to ill health.

"Roy" was first employed as agent for the United Grain Growers Limited at Russell, Manitoba. His contract in this capacity was dated October 18, 1916. He proved himself to be a good agent and in August of the following year, 1917, was promoted to travelling inspector, which position he has filled for the past 29 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Sumner have been loyal citizens and have given of their best at all times. They plan to live at Virden.—*Virden, Man.*

#### Sweet News from Homewood

At the time of writing beet harvesting is now in full swing, an average of three cars per day being loaded.

Approximately 1,000 acres were sown to beets and the yield averaged ten tons per acre.

One hundred and five German prisoners of war, in addition to several Japanese families have been working in the beet fields during the summer, and helped to harvest the crops.

The Manitoba Sugar Beet Co. have installed a permanent beet loading machine at Homewood, which dumps and elevates a large truck load (five tons) with a minimum of effort in about five minutes.—*Homewood, Man.*

#### U.G.G. Agent Retires

R. G. Swain has retired from the service of United Grain Growers Limited after having acted as agent since September 1, 1912. Prior to starting with the company Mr. Swain operated the Manitoba Government elevator at Altamont for two years and came with U.G.G. when they took over the elevator. He leaves the company's service with a first class record and with the best wishes of all for many more years of health and happiness.—*Altamont, Man.*

#### Passing of a Good Neighbor

The passing of Mrs. Margaret Jane Sparling, widow of Edwin Sparling of Swan Lake, is a serious loss to this community. Mrs. Sparling was held in high esteem as a neighbor and friend. Mrs. Sparling was the mother of F. L. Sparling, U.G.G. agent at Somerset, Man. Born near Goderich, Ont., she came to the Swan Lake district with her husband in 1881.—*Swan Lake, Man.*

#### Retires After 22 Years Service

Alexander S. Calder, familiarly known to all as "Sandy," retired as United Grain Growers Limited agent at Dominion City recently after 22 years of service. Mr. Calder was born in Stirling, Scotland, and came to Canada in 1907. From 1914 to 1920 he operated an elevator at Dominion City and afterward went into the lumber business for himself, later taking over United Grain Growers' elevator. Mr. Calder was highly esteemed for his work as U.G.G. agent and as a friendly neighbor.—*Dominion City, Manitoba.*

#### Sons of the Pioneers

Elsewhere in this issue of The Guide are announced details of a U.G.G. radio broadcast called "Sons of the Pioneers" appearing at popular hours over Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba stations. The broadcast features an internationally famous cowboy ensemble and no doubt will be eagerly listened to by all who enjoy the old-time and modern songs of the range. Full details appear on page 13. Be sure to listen in!

#### Friendly Coyotes

Recently F. L. Dickinson from the Winnipeg office of United Grain Growers Limited was visiting at this point and he vouches for at least part of the story out of which the townspeople got quite a shock.

Five coyotes calmly walked down the main street one day as though they were paying a visit as delegates to a convention. Many people saw them and at first rather admired the nerve of the animals but when the coyotes started picking up the odd hen things got lively. The owners of the fowl took after them. The spectacle of good citizens chasing coyotes, coyotes chasing hens, chickens squawking and feathers flying supplied a lively fifteen minutes.—*Mankota, Sask.*

#### Alberta Farm and Home Broadcasts

The Alberta Farm and Home Forum, a radio program sponsored by the faculty of agriculture, University of Alberta, and the Alberta Department of Agriculture, brings to farm listeners a contact with other workers in the fields of agriculture and home sciences. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, at 8:15 p.m., the Alberta Farm and Home Forum is heard from stations CKUA, Edmonton, and CJCJ, Calgary.

#### Passing of a Pioneer

Friends and neighbors regret the passing of George Stevenson, one of our best known pioneers.

Mr. Stevenson was born in Ronsay Orkney, Scotland, November 11, 1869. He came to Canada and the Endcliffe district in 1905 with his wife and family. Always active in community affairs, Mr. Stevenson was trustee of the Endcliffe School district for 21 years, and president of the community club for 18 years.

He was also a strong supporter of the United Grain Growers Limited.—*Endcliffe, Manitoba.*

#### A Real Good Neighbor Act

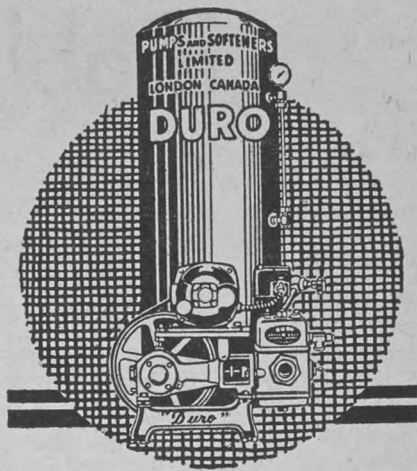
A party of good neighbors surprised Mrs. Pauline Heryford, widow of Elton Heryford, of Makepeace, Alberta, by pulling into her fields with their equipment to harvest her crop.

The good neighbors started on the 460-acre crop at 9:30 a.m. There were 17 combines, some self-propelled, but mostly tractor drawn and eight trucks.

Part of the grain was hauled to the elevator in Crowfoot the rest was stored in granaries on the farm.

After a splendid day's work and neighborly fellowship the "good companions" started home at 5:30 p.m., the harvesting completed. Mrs. Heryford warmly thanked everyone individually for what they had done and assured them it was a day and a neighborly act which she would never forget.

Mr. Heryford, an old-timer of the Makepeace district died three months ago, and the eldest son Cecil, died a



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year ago by an unfortunate accident. Mrs. Heryford is left with two daughters at home, and two younger boys, 12 and 3 years respectively. Also Mr. Heryford's brother Earl, an invalid. — *Cluny, Alberta.*

#### Welcome Wedding Couple

The Parkland district recently had the pleasure of a shower and welcome for Mrs. Lawrence Hunter, the first English war bride to come to Parkland.

Mrs. G. E. Bayer, also formerly from England, gave the welcome address. The bride received many useful gifts for which she showed her appreciation by thanking her Canadian well-wishers for their kindness.—*Parkland, Alta.*

#### Turkeys Are Popular

A few of the Nobleford district farmers have entered an interesting side line to their other farming operations. Raising turkeys seems to be paying good dividends. The flock owned by C. G. Prendergast who has over 900 birds looks like lots of Christmas dinners for householders.

Mr. Prendergast states that his experience has been after the first four or five weeks, raising turkeys is not hard, as they are then past the delicate period, and, if care has been taken up to that time, they will finish off with very little trouble as the turkey is a good rustler. This fine flock of turkeys got their start on U.G.G. Money-Maker Turkey Starter and Turkey Grower.—*Nobleford, Alta.*

#### Girl Cadets Organized

Mrs. B. Collier, who recently completed a cadet course has organized a detachment of the Royal Canadian Army Cadet Corps.

Thirty-three members now comprise the Vulcan detachment. The syllabus of training, differing in some respects from that of the boys' Cadet Corps, and includes special tutoring in first aid and home nursing. The girls also take part in the activities of the rifle club, receiving instructions from Mr. Majakey and Mr. Harold King.

The Corps will receive its training equipment from M.D. No. 13, and smartly designed uniforms will be available in the near future for purchase by the members.—*Vulcan, Alta.*

#### New Curling Rink

Three and a half months ago our old one sheet curling rink was torn down and a new three sheet rink has been erected on a new site.

The new rink is 52 feet wide, 170 feet long and has a round roof with no pillars or posts in the playing area. The waiting room has an upstairs which will be used as a club room for various organizations to hold meetings and social gatherings. This new building is a wonderful asset to the community and is a real community building sponsored by Thorsby curling club. It has cost about \$3,300, plus old curling rink—this cost, however, is only material as all the labor was voluntary and donated. About 12 or 15 men in Thorsby spent every minute they could spare from their business to work on this building, many times until 11 p.m., with results that are a tribute to praiseworthy effort.—*Thorsby, Alberta.*

#### Proposed Recreational Centre

Engineers from the department of natural resources have been busy surveying a proposed park and recreational centre near the old Wood Mountain Post. Part of the idea is to erect a dam in the spring-fed stream at this point which will make a good sized lake and improve the park as a summer resort.—*Wood Mountain, Sask.*

## HEAVY DEMAND FOR CANADIAN WHEAT

Continued from page 35

needs filled. It seems probable, therefore, that a year-end wheat carry-over of about one hundred million bushels should be regarded, not as a sign of surplus accumulating but rather as furnishing a useful stock-in-trade, necessary if the maximum amount of business is to be done.

Both the urgency of the present demand, and how awkward it is to run out of wheat in export position have been illustrated during recent weeks by the shipping situation at Montreal. From thirty to fifty ocean vessels were continuously lying idle there awaiting cargoes of Canadian wheat which they had been sent to obtain. Most of these vessels were destined for Great Britain. That country, under the wheat agreement recently made, is entitled to get one hundred and sixty million bushels from the current year's wheat crop. It is also eager, official reports show, to get still larger quantities if possible, although it seems unlikely that Canada can furnish more this year. Britain is also anxious to get a large preliminary instalment of the contract quantity just as quickly as possible. For that purpose the ships in question were sent to Canada, and, moreover, they were sent to the Atlantic Coast instead of to Vancouver so that maximum quantities could be moved with no loss of time.

It was not a shortage of wheat in country elevators or in terminal elevators at Port Arthur and Fort William which kept these ships idle in an eastern harbor. The primary difficulty was that wheat had not been flowing down the Great Lakes in satisfactory volume. There had been a shortage of lake grain carriers, because many boats usually engaged in that traffic had been diverted to other business. That was the case with Canadian boats and particularly with the smaller ones which are able to pass through the lower lake canals leading to Montreal. Then, in addition, the government of the United States forbade vessels registered in that country to carry Canadian grain, as many of them are often accustomed to do, between lakehead ports and Buffalo. In addition, there was a shortage of railway cars in eastern Canada so that stocks which had been accumulated in elevators on Georgian Bay could not be drawn upon as rapidly as usual.

Besides Great Britain, many other countries were seeking Canadian wheat and had also sent ships to Montreal. One of these was Brazil, which does not usually buy Canadian wheat but instead relies on supplies from Argentina. Lately, however, Brazil, possibly on account of political difficulty has not been able to get accustomed supplies of Argentine wheat. The Canadian Wheat Board is quite unable to satisfy the different countries applying for Canadian wheat, either with immediate supplies or with promises for future delivery. Representatives of different countries have been bringing insistent pressure not only upon the Canadian Wheat Board but also upon the government at Ottawa. The demand in question has not been checked by an advance which has taken place in the price of non-contract wheat. Against the price basis of \$1.55 per bushel stipulated in the British contract, the Wheat Board began offering non-contract wheat in August on a basis of \$2.05 per bushel. Lately that price has been advanced to \$2.20 per bushel to keep pace with an advance in prices on the Chicago market which is the accepted basis for such sales.

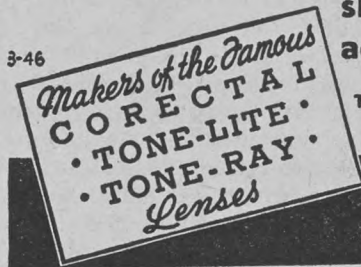
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## Freeholders of the Wild

Most of the birds and animals of the Rockies, described by Kerry Wood, are also at home on the plains

By R. D. COLQUETTE

**I**F you like Kerry Wood's nature articles in The Country Guide you should read his new book, *Birds and Animals of the Rockies*. It describes the wild things that have squatters' rights in the Banff and Jasper National Parks, where they live, love and have their being.

But the birds and animals Kerry Wood describes are not found only in Canada's two great mountain playgrounds. With very few exceptions they are as native to the prairie as to mountain slopes and valleys.

How interesting many of these creatures are! Why does the Wood Rat, an incorrigible thief, always leave something, even if it is only a pine cone, in payment for the article stolen? Did you ever watch the mating dance of the shrew, the midget jitterbug of the wilds, or hear its high pitched love song? What animal is it that hibernates for seven months of the year and sleeps or dozes 12 to 14 hours of the 24 during the other five?

Kerry Wood is a keen student, a close observer and an accurate chronicler of wild bird and animal life. But he is something more. He is building up a reputation as an inspirational force. Canada has produced a few such men among its nature lovers. At the top of the list must stand the name of Jack Miner.

Others could be mentioned: Prof. V. W. Jackson, whose 668 talks over CKY, Winnipeg, dealt mostly with nature topics, and who had thousands of people seeing things about them that they had never noticed before; Dan McGowan, of Banff, whose talks and colored slides are a feature of the tourist season and whose books are widely read. These are the popularizers, the inspirers, who know how to reach the minds and hearts of the people. We can't have too many of them.

**E**NROLLED in this distinguished company is Kerry Wood. He has the popular touch, both in writing and before the microphone. He can even get readability into his explanation of scientific names. Take this, for example, referring to that night time yodler, the common coyote: "Scientific name, *Canis latrans*. *Latrans* is latin for barking. Which means that the name of this animal is The Barking Dog. Some folk still refer to it as the Prairie Wolf, and others, such as raisers of free range turkeys, call it a collection of names which censorship regulations prohibit listing here."

As an example of popular writing open his book and take this extract from the chapter on squirrels:

"Have you ever watched a mother Red Squirrel carrying a young one? She holds the little one with her teeth, but instead of seizing it by the scruff of the neck, as many animal mothers do when transporting their young, the squirrel takes hold of the belly skin of her babies.

"I watched this unique performance one day when a mother squirrel was moving her family out of a flicker hole

in an old stub which I happened to knock over. In falling, the stub had careened into a couple of trees, thus breaking the severe jar of its crash, which might have killed the squirrel family in the heart of the stub.

"As it was, the mother squirrel started scolding me almost before the stub had stopped moving. A brief moment later she popped into the flicker hole opening and came out with the tiny squirrel baby in her jaws. The little one was only a few days old, too young to follow the mother on her nimble course through the leafy branches, hence she had to carry it. She had seized the little one by the belly skin while the youngster was co-operating by curling its fore and back legs and tail around the head and neck of the mother in a tight embrace. The mother animal raced up a tree trunk, ran along a limber branch and jumped a yard to a second tree, then hurried away into the nearby spruces and disappeared from view. Within a few moments she returned, her burden missing, and she commented briefly, but caustically, on my meddlesome ways before disappearing into the flicker hole again. In a moment she came out with another young one, similarly clutched by the belly skin and with the little squirrel's legs and tail securely wrapped around her neck in the same manner as the first. Away she hurried again and this time I was able to follow her swift course and marked that she had located another woodpecker hole, about a hundred yards away, which she was utilizing as a new nest. She made five trips in all, transporting five baby squirrels to the new home.

**"T**HINKING about it afterwards, I began to realize the necessity of this strange hold. If the mother squirrel grasped the little one by the scruff of the neck, the dragging bodies and long tails of the youngsters would get under her front feet and seriously hamper her progress along the narrow avenues of the tree branches. Worse still, if she had carried them by that method and stepped on the young one's tail, the tender brush might have peeled off, or been otherwise injured. An injury to a squirrel's tail is serious, as the large and flattened brush is not only a beautiful adornment, but also a practical parachute which aids in squirrel jumps."

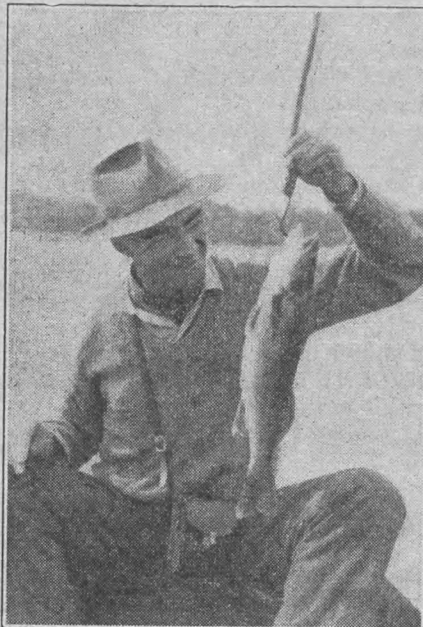
That was a piece of good observation, dramatically recorded. Who, having read it, will forget it? It is a sample, admittedly a good sample, of many observations recorded in the book. There

are also many touches of humor in it. Surely the most humorless animal in the world is the porcupine. "Did you ever," asks Kerry, "hear the story of the two porcupines out on a petting party?"

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This delightful book is fully illustrated with pen and ink drawings, the work of Frank L. Beebe. It is published by H. R. Larson Publishing Co., Vancouver, Saskatoon and Hamilton. The price is \$1.50.



Kerry Wood with a 3-lb. Wall-eye at Buck Lake, Alta.

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## EQUALITY FOR AGRICULTURE

Continued from page 5

then parity of prices must fail in its objective. No remedy for a chronic condition will ever be satisfactory, which proposes, even if successful, not to eliminate but merely to reduce the chronic condition. Aside from the fact that parity prices are exceedingly difficult to introduce and maintain (see The Country Guide, October, Page 55), they can do nothing but restore price conditions which never did realize the farmer's hope for economic, social and cultural equality with the rest of society.

THERE is another proposal, which in very general terms is expressed as a desire to obtain for agriculture a fair share of the national income. This is, indeed, nearer to the mark, notwithstanding the fact that its validity is challenged by the very vagueness of the claim. The proposal is, in fact, not unlike a court claim for unstated damages, subject to the provision that the amount of damages awarded must be satisfactory.

As far as the writer is aware, no one has said, or can say officially, what agriculture's fair share of the national income would be—whether it would be a proportionate share based on farm and non-farm populations, or on the numbers gainfully employed, or on some other assortment of factors in the national economy. This more or less reasonable initial approach to the problem of equality for agriculture, however, gives point to the request of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture for an official investigation into the actual share of the national income obtained by agriculture. Such share, if found to be underproportioned, would in all probability lead to a demand for changes in government policy.

The fair adjustment of national income from year to year would be extremely difficult. The national income figure is not fixed and may change substantially from one year to the next. Agricultural output, on the other hand, changes slowly, much more slowly than the output of urban industry. This was well illustrated by the war years when urban industry increased its output tremendously, whereas agriculture, after five years of war, had achieved a reputed 40 per cent increase, of which probably half, or less, was due to a series of bountiful crop seasons.

Agriculture also provides a paradox

not found in other industries (see Theodore W. Schultz: Agriculture in an Unstable Economy), by which it is not only subject to the maximum of competition between individual farms, but is at the same time subject to a greater amount of governmental control than other industry. In other words, it is in the nature of the farm business that production must be continuous, even in times of serious depression, while at the same time farmers cannot, like the operators of urban business, carry on their own research into new and better methods, readily secure machinery and equipment designed to save labor and decrease costs, or develop their businesses to a sufficient size that public confidence will be inspired and capital readily invested. Technological advances must be brought to the majority of farmers by governments, and research and experimental evidence developed in the same way.

Even some farm leaders do not seem to realize the extent to which agriculture is tied to urban progress and stability. This is not only true as to the dependence of farmers on consumption articles and production equipment manufactured by other industry, but also as to the importance of a high level of employment in other industries. Economists seem to be fairly well agreed that one of the principal difficulties inherent in the attainment of equality for agriculture is what has been called "underemployment" on the farm. This means, simply, that there are too many workers in agriculture. The very suggestion, of course, will raise a laugh with many farmers, but it isn't at all funny. It is responsible in no small measure for the lower returns which farming normally brings. In part, such underemployment as exists in agriculture results from the seasonal nature of farm work, leaving various portions of the year when workers are not fully employed. In part, it is due to a large number of farms (subsistence farms) which produce comparatively little for the market; and in part, to the fact that agriculture normally employs a higher proportion (about one-third) of all gainfully employed persons in Canada, as operators and wage earners, whereas the total farm population is only about one-quarter of the total population of the country.

During the war years, when agricultural output was 40 per cent over pre-war, the farm labor supply was down

by an estimated 23 per cent, which meant not only that the excess labor in agriculture was drawn off to war industries and the armed forces, but that the per capita net income of those remaining increased out of all proportion to the increase of farm prices or the increase in total production. The reason was that there were fewer workers left to share the returns; and any respectable pie will produce more satisfaction per person if cut into four pieces, than if six pieces are necessary to make it go around.

BUSINESS, as it is conducted in urban centres, must take a large share of the responsibility for any underemployment that exists in agriculture. Men cannot leave the farm for jobs in the city, unless there is a steady job there for them. The economic cycles of booms and depressions occur too frequently in business, for business leaders to be very complacent about their efficiency in the national economy. The cities look to the farms for their replenishment, because the farm population increases more rapidly than the population of urban centres. They also look to the farms, not only for food in abundance, but for a substantial part of their market. It is, therefore, in the interest of business that it should keep moving along at a steady and fairly rapid pace, in order that both rural and urban business may mesh well and mutually achieve both a relatively high net income and a satisfactory interdependence.

Farmers today bear too large a proportion of the cost of replenishing the city. If city families are smaller and can be reared, educated and nurtured under a higher standard of living, why should the farmer be expected to rear a larger family, educate his children under more difficult conditions, feed, clothe and care for them on a lower average income, in order that a proportion of them may later help to maintain the physique of city dwellers?

This raises a whole series of questions with regard to equality for agriculture. Why, indeed, should electrification, for example, be so difficult to secure and so costly when finally achieved for rural people, when it is so easy of access and so inexpensive in our towns and cities? Why are doctors so plentiful in cities and so scarce in country districts? Why are schools so small and teachers so underpaid and education so costly in the country as compared with cities?

It is extremely unlikely that any pos-

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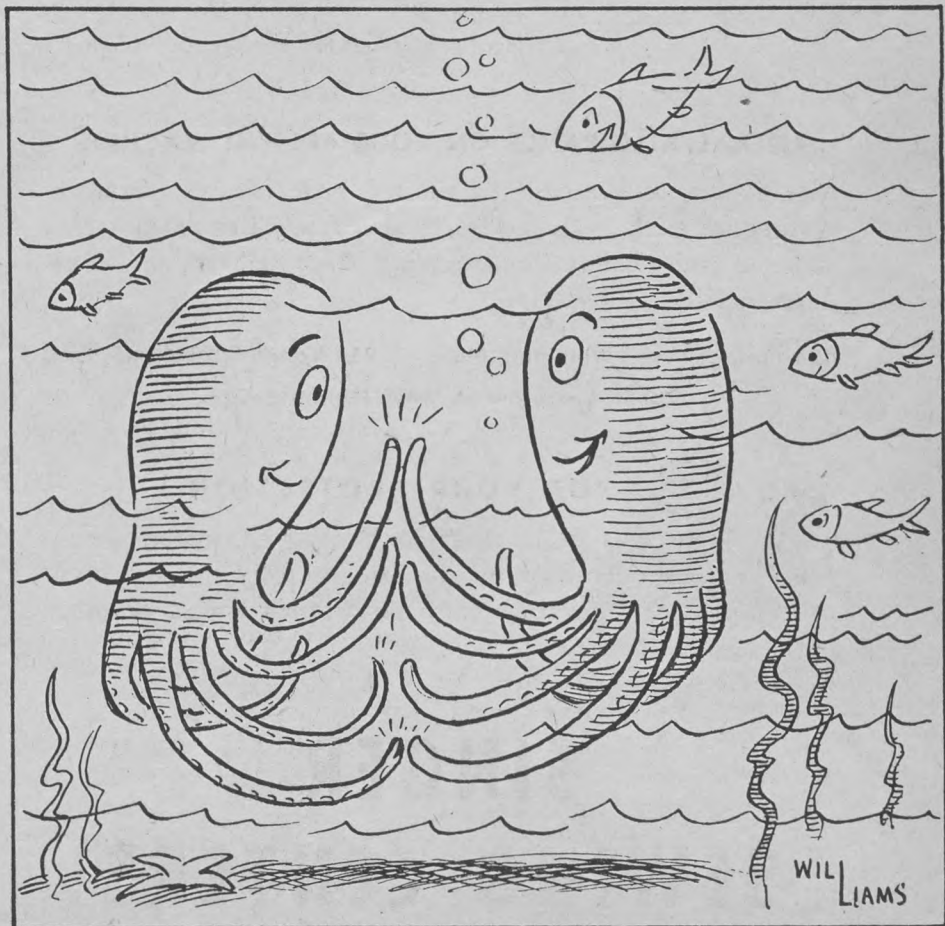
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sible increase in the prices for farm products would be sufficient to compensate for, and overcome these handicaps. From a practical point of view, such increases would be economically impracticable for any country relying substantially on an export market. More logical is the suggestion that the public interest should be extended in these directions, and that governments should take up the slack at the expense of all the taxpayers. This, indeed, is the principle already accepted, but in too limited a way. Such an approach to this part of the problem of equality for agriculture would be both an economic and a social one and would tend to remove the field of social welfare from the area of prices and fluctuating business conditions. Once these elements are removed, prices and what they can do will be seen in truer perspective.

A further obstacle to equality arises from the fact that, in western Canada particularly, climate may determine the farmer's net income even more than prices. If prices are high, costs are likely to be high also, but if the climate is unfavorable in any year, there may be little to sell, even at high prices. Prices alone, therefore, are not the answer to equality for agriculture, and the influence of climate strengthens the conclusion that no single policy and no single remedy will achieve equality for the farmer. To offset the effect of climate, some form of crop insurance would seem to be necessary. We already have Prairie Farm Income and Prairie Farm Assistance, but we have not yet achieved adequate crop insurance. Perhaps it is because we have been waiting for the perfect scheme to be devised, whereas, in fact, these rarely emerge except out of trial and error.

IN the realm of prices, it would be preferable and more constructive to pin our faith to forward, rather than backward levels and relationships. In this respect, Canadian government policy is moving in the right direction, since we now have guaranteed markets for beef, bacon and pork, cheese, eggs and other products, including wheat, for from one to four years ahead. Farmers may, within the limits of these British contracts, plus the present strong domestic demand for farm products, plan production to suit themselves. The unfortunate aspect of the present farm market situation is that it is temporary and decidedly not normal, which is particularly true of beef. As this is written, our natural surplus cattle market (the United States) has soared to almost unbelievable heights, in a situation highly charged with free enterprise, inflation and politics.

At least some economists and, I think, common sense, argue that the true function of prices is to guide production. Nothing can be sold for which there is no market; and prices should be the true market indicator. If this is correct, the less artificiality we introduce into prices for farm products, the better. During the war, it was the object of the government to maintain the cost of living at a fairly stable level, and producers were compensated to the tune of over \$400 million, in lieu of higher market prices and to avoid an ill-balanced war production which would have resulted without price control. A \$200-million fund has also been provided under the Agricultural Prices Support Act, for the specific purpose of putting a floor under farm prices as a measure of postwar protection for agriculture, which operated under ceilings during the war years. It is impossible, however, to imagine true floor prices as achieving anything like equality for agriculture. They are, in effect, public stop-loss orders, and can do nothing more than prevent an increase in disparity. Even in this limited field they will be powerless, unless the

amount produced is kept within the limits of what the market can absorb.

The importance of market capacity leads us to other aspects of equality, since it bears directly on the responsibility of agriculture itself to produce, not only in kind and quality what the market wants most, but to do so efficiently and at relatively low cost. To achieve anything approaching equality will involve substantial changes within, as well as outside agriculture. The utilization of land, labor and capital on farms so as to achieve the best use of these resources and ultimately the highest practicable output per man, would in many cases require changes in farm management: More diversification where this is practicable, perhaps more livestock to lengthen out the productive year, in some cases possibly some more land to fully utilize equipment and manpower, and in other cases more equipment to fully utilize the land already available.

Equality for agriculture will not come on a silver platter, nor because an incensed group within agriculture decides to protest against something of which a large proportion of society is not even aware. Public interest is developing in nutrition, foods and social welfare generally—a form of partial compensation, perhaps, for the tragedies of war. Farmers have a case for equality, but it will need to be well argued. Basic facts must be gathered and widely understood. Farm organizations and farm leaders must learn to look beyond price, for equality. Equally important is the fact, for which urban business is primarily responsible, that as a result of technological and scientific advances, fewer and fewer people are required today to produce a stated output of farm products. It is, consequently, relatively true in Canada, as in the United States, that, as stated by Schultz (see above), "many more people will have to leave agriculture, before the earnings, inside and outside of agriculture, become essentially equal."

## IF FARMERS KEEP RECORDS TOGETHER

Continued from page 12

of the comparative economic advantages of livestock and grain production.

It seems timely now to suggest, also, that any large capital investment for the extension of barns and equipment for livestock should be made with an eye toward rigid economy. It is preferable to make every effort toward efficiency and the fullest use of all facilities already available. Furthermore, the producer of livestock would be well advised to exercise all care in seeing that the value of breeding animals is kept in line with the value of animals sold on the commercial market. For the same reasons, it is well to remember that pigs and poultry multiply rapidly and at little expense. Housing for them is comparatively inexpensive. Well-bred and well-fed swine and poultry maintained under these advantageous conditions should make these types of livestock relatively more profitable on the whole, than cattle, for example, which are now selling on the market at fairly high prices, but increase quite slowly and carry substantially higher prices for breeding stock.

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and especially in the United States, there has developed a group of professional farm managers, who without owning the land or the equipment, and without being able to claim results of their labors, have managed land for others on a salary or percentage basis. Generally they have been individuals of superior training and experience; and generally, too, their work has been successful and satisfactory for the land-owning institutions and absentee private owners who employ them.

The majority of farms are family-size farms, and the farmer is not able financially—even if he were willing—to employ a manager or expert adviser. He must, therefore, in addition to being plowman, machinery expert, livestock feeder, marketer, soil conservationist, weed and disease control expert, book-keeper and builder, be manager also, with the inevitable result that he cannot do all of these things equally well, notwithstanding that they all need to be done.

It is a fundamental principle of good business management that careful records of all business transactions and seasonal activities should be kept. It is not the records themselves, but the later study of them that is important, in addition to the fact that they preserve a record of the facts. Many farmers are not making income tax returns regularly. Records carefully kept through the year will aid greatly when the time comes to file returns. Farm accounts can point the way to improvements in farm management and more efficient administration of the farm business. Every urban businessman keeps an inventory of his land, chattels, buildings and merchandise, but not many farmers keep carefully prepared plans of their farms, as well as appraisals and inventories of equipment, feed and livestock. Those who do keep records know where they are going and what they are doing—they do not have to guess.

Sound business management can only be based on a thorough knowledge of the business. This means that systematic records must be kept; and keeping farm accounts is merely a matter of keeping records. For this purpose, large business organizations hire specialists, but because the individual, family-size farm cannot afford to do this, farm records are generally inadequate and fail to reflect the advantages or disadvantages arising from the use of certain methods or equipment or from the continuation or the omission of certain basic farm enterprises.

How, then, can the family-size farm procure the advantages of expert accounting and satisfactory records, with the minimum outlay of effort and expense? It must be remembered, too, that no amount of individual accounting will enable individual farmers to compare their successes and failures in sufficient detail, so that the whole community may be built up, unless all records are kept on a uniform system. If such a uniform system did exist in a community, and comparisons between returns of individual farmers could be made without reference to individuals by name, so that the comparison could be made by a disinterested, impartial and competent individual, the result could be of great value to everyone concerned.

#### Co-operative Farm Accounting

**D**URING recent years a system of co-operative farm accounting has been developed, but unless intelligent direction (based upon careful recording of farm operations and organization) can be made to pay at least 100 per cent on the cost of such service to the farmer, it should not be undertaken. The idea is based on the fact that in any farm community there are always some farmers who are making

greater progress than others. The question that arises in the mind of the average farm operator in the same district is—why? Is it due to superior farm and business management, or it is just luck? Chance is undoubtedly a factor, but on the other hand it is more than possible that the successful man has something, either as manager or producer, that the other does not possess. Almost everyone will agree that if all farmers in a district were as successful as the best farmers, the whole community would be a better one in which to live. Not only this, but if the district were large enough, it would be reflected in higher land values in the whole community.

The idea behind co-operative farm accounting, which is really co-operative farm management in one sense, is that if a systematic study is made of why the successful man is successful, those who have been less successful can more easily adopt some of the principles of management now being practised by the successful man. Even the best operator, however, is not perfect in everything he does. Even he could improve his methods if he knew just where to get the best results. To look over the back fence for ten minutes or ten years does not reveal much more than the fact of failure or success. The factors contributing to failure or success need to be brought out into the open and studied, after which the individual farmer can adjust his farming practices as seems best to him.

**T**HE operation of the co-operative farm accounting idea is based upon careful records kept by individual farmers, and turned over to a trained, experienced person, expert in analysis and capable of practically helping or endeavoring to help each individual concerned. The farmer who is satisfied with himself and in all that he does, will not be interested in such a system. However, the operator who wants to improve his position financially, intellectually and even morally in his community, will find such a service both stimulating and profitable, if he diligently tries to help work it out.

Naturally, all information collected, analyses made, and recommendations, if any, that are passed on to individuals, should be private and confidential, as between the farm account analyst and each individual co-operator. Year-end comparative reports should be made for the benefit of all co-operators, in which the individual co-operator might be given merely a number, for purposes of comparison as to the result of individual farm management. The farm adviser, in the early stages of such a venture, will occupy an important position, because it will be necessary for him to interpret records properly and correctly, for which reason he will require to be a person of experience, judgment and training. Where very large numbers of farm records are involved, and the data analyzed, the result will be significant statistically.

The first step in setting up a co-operative farm management program would be to provide the farm adviser with detailed records of all income and expenses as from January 1 of the current year, so that all accounting could be based on the calendar year. Records of all income and expense would be provided, then, monthly, by each farmer to keep the records complete for later study and review. The farm adviser would make valuation of each farm to determine the normal or true economic value of each farm and its chattels. He could also give his opinion of the present sale value of the property, and this might be useful in various ways.

It would be the duty of the farm account analyst or adviser to visit each farm periodically through the active season of the year. This would provide



46-16W



an opportunity for him to study the methods of each individual operator, and advise with him concerning immediate improvements in farm organization. After some time he would get to know each farm and each farmer more intimately, with the result that the service would begin to show real results in generally improved methods of farming by at least some of the co-operators.

#### Some Other Considerations

AS and when machinery and other items of consumption goods become more plentiful, it would be possible to buy through the organization, many of these needed items, on a wholesale basis. This would result in a real saving of money. In the case of the purchase of expensive equipment, savings could be made here alone that would amount to many times the cost of the service to the farmer. Each co-operator could then first discuss major purchases with his farm adviser and perhaps would sometimes be shown that, in his case, the need for the new equipment did not warrant its purchase.

Ultimately, collective bargaining in the selling of farm products will present opportunities of advantage to patrons co-operating in such a community organization. The field of specialty crops and special products, too, presents possibilities. Seed production, dairy cattle production, the growing of sugar beets, hogs, poultry, and the sale of processed products could be developed as profitable side lines. These, if sufficiently developed and collectively advertised, would all lead to increased revenues for those participating in the various enterprises as members of a co-operative farm records and business organization.

It is good farm business to keep cash outlay at the lowest possible point. A well-organized farm "set-up" is self-sufficient in as many items of its consumption as possible. That is how successful farmers of a generation ago made progress. Requirements of the farm and family should be grown at home as much as possible. Enough livestock, including poultry, should be produced to supply all home needs and enough more to provide at least sufficient revenue for current farm and home expenses. This permits "cash on delivery" approach. Cash always buys more than if the purchase has to be made on some credit basis. Obligations must be honored when payment is due. Nothing can be done that is of greater importance in rural districts to bring about economic stability, than the observance of this point. Good business management demands that payment for consumption goods required to operate a farm business or home, be made when the commodity is bought.

Although immediate farm income may now be above the subsistence level of the thirties, this is not the time to indulge in extravagant standards of living. Neither is this the time to make capital investment in real estate or equipment, with only a small initial cash payment and the balance to be paid by heavy annual payments of interest and principal over a long period of years. This is the time to liquidate all contract indebtedness and to preserve physical assets at a high state of productivity. After wars there have always been depressions, and this war may be no exception.

(Dr. Sommerfeld is Farm Manager for the Canada Colonization and Finance Corporation, Winnipeg, with western farm background and long experience in the field of farm business and economics.)



## New Engines and Fuels

(Condensed from The Manchester Guardian)

THE latest internal combustion engines are no longer intended to use just "gasoline." Special fuels are now manufactured to get the best out of particular engines; special engines are designed to make the most of particular fuels; special steel alloys are developed to stand the strain involved.

The Ethyl Corporation has just announced that a motor car engine has been experimentally produced which runs on 100 octane aviation fuel, gives from 13 to 20 per cent more mileage per gallon than any similar engine, and weighs less than one pound per horsepower, compared with a normal weight of five to ten pounds per horsepower. This engine is to be built of special steel alloys developed during the war, and the corporation forecasts that it will be in full production by 1950, or shortly thereafter.

The Ethyl Corporation was responsible for the development of high octane fuel—a highly refined spirit giving remarkable results in high compression engines, which can be made lighter and smaller than those using low octane gas, provided they are built of metals that can stand the additional heat and strain. Octane rating became generally accepted about 15 years ago and it started American oil refiners, and both British and American engine designers on the road to rising compression ratios. In both fields of endeavor great progress has been made. The Germans on the other hand, with totally different resources in fuel and steel alloying material followed the opposite trend. German design strove for maximum power when using low octane fuels.

During the war British engineering led the world in the field of aircraft engines. Every British engine was designed on the assumption that its fuel needs would be met from oil refineries in the United States and elsewhere,

which were turning out fuels of ever greater purity, of ever higher octane rating. In the end, Sir Roy Fedden stated in a lecture to the Royal Aeronautical Society, there was little to choose between the efficiency of the German aero engines on one side, or the British or American engines on the other, each using the kind of fuel for which they were designed.

A stage has now been reached in oil refining, metallurgy, and engine construction, where it is possible to "tailor" fuels for the engine, and engines for the fuel. It is therefore now possible to produce with equal economy engines of equal efficiency which are designed to use entirely different types of fuel. There is a choice open in these matters, though it must be made for considerable periods ahead. American refiners and car manufacturers naturally think in terms of making the best use of America's plant capacity to turn out super-octane fuel, enormously expanded during the war, and some of which may now become redundant.

The team work of fuel technicians, engine designers and metallurgists is not confined to the use of high quality gas. Not long ago almost any type of medium weight oil was considered good enough for Diesel engines. The latest high-speed Diesel engines require fuel of at least sixty octane, and American oil firms have announced that "tailor made" fuels will soon be supplied for Diesels as they now are for aircraft engines.

Entirely different problems of fuel, metal, and engine development are being set by the emergence of the gas turbine and the jet engine. For these the octane rating of the fuel is of no importance. Performance depends solely on the thermal efficiency of the fuel, and the degree to which metals and lubricants can stand the heat and scouring action of the combustion gases.

## Worthy Of His Hire

A plea for the old barn cat

THERE is one worker on the farm that has been greatly underrated and grossly neglected. He is the barn cat. Everything on the farm receives consideration from the farmer—the fields are fertilized, the stock is fed balanced rations, the machinery is kept in good repair, while one small but important cog in the operation of a successful farm is completely overlooked.

Cats often roam several miles but they usually live in the barn. There they rub against the legs of the cattle, whether through affection or for the satisfaction of having their sides rubbed is hard to say.

It is a common belief that cats carry disease in their fur. If this is true then isn't it plausible to assume that cows contract infection if they have an open insect bite, an abrasive bruise or a cut on their legs? It is only very lately that the agricultural colleges and the experimental stations are beginning to give the barn cat serious study. They are trying to trace the course of epidemics from one farm to another by closely checking the peregrinations of the barn cat. Especially at mating time, cats fare far from home.

Aside from being a disease carrier, the neglected barn cat becomes sickly, thin and scrawny and develops his own various kinds of germs. Usually there is no one to blame in this instance but the farmer himself—or perhaps we should say, the farmer's wife.

All table scraps are reserved for the dogs on the farm. The farmer thinks his dogs earn their board and keep by watching the place, herding cattle and

running numerous errands. The truth is that the barn cat is as great a helper to the farmer as his dog. It is the cat's job to keep down the rodents on the farm, but he cannot do this job efficiently on mice and milk!

The cat has a digestive system built on the same principle as human beings, he must have a balanced ration and salt to live healthily.

Since a cat will not lick a salt block he must have salt in his food. To feed him table scraps—if they are not mixed with vinegar from the salad or fruit juices so that the plate of food becomes only swill, fit for the pigs—is an excellent way to keep the cat's diet balanced.

It is a fallacy that well-fed cats are lazy and will not catch mice. Innumerable tests have been run on well-fed cats and starved cats and the result was about equal. The well-fed cats caught rodents for the sport of killing as men hunt and fish for sport.

Because a farmer sees a mouse run in front of a cat and the cat makes no move to catch it, he brands the cat as lazy. The truth of the matter is, the farmer sees this occurrence in daylight. To the cat the day is his time for sleeping. He is a night animal with eyes fitted to see in the dark. In daylight the pupils of his eyes become mere threads to exclude the blinding sunlight. Therefore moving images are not reflected from the retina of the eye fast enough to enable him to see distinctly. He sees as well in the daytime as man sees at night.—VERNA HUBER WHEMPNER.



#### ATTENTION!

This ad is addressed to a man not over age 55 who is concerned about his future security and interested in getting a business of his own. He may be too old for heavy work. Perhaps his income is uncertain or not enough to meet present-day demands. He may be discouraged, but if he has good references and a car, there is a possibility of him qualifying for better than average earnings. He should forward full personal history to the advertiser, Box 182, The Country Guide, Winnipeg.

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## A Year of Socialism

Taking stock of the record made in its first year of office by Britain's first effective Socialist government

**T**HE British Labor government, elected at the close of the war, has now completed its first year in office, and it is a timely undertaking to assess its efforts to carry out the pre-election pledges which swept it into power, its present standing, and its prospects.

It was freely acknowledged in Britain, during the course of the election, that the acceptance of responsibility by the winning party, whichever it might be, would come at the most difficult hour of British history. No government at Westminster has ever been faced in peace time with problems of such magnitude as those which were bound to confront it. Tory voters, stunned by the decisive verdict, consoled themselves with the frequently expressed view that the new ministry could not survive the strains to which it would be subjected, and after a short period of floundering, their own party would be called to power by a penitent electorate. A respite from responsibility during the first shock of postwar adjustment looked to them like a providential release.

But the complete political and economic collapse which they freely predicted has not come to pass. Instead, the government has pressed aggressively on with its program, gaining in its grasp of political mastery, winning every by-election in its first year of office—a record unequalled since Gladstonian times, while the consternation of the beaten has turned to sour frustration.

In its manifesto to the public, "Let Us Face the Future," the Labor party built its domestic program around a policy of full employment, and its necessary preliminary, the nationalization of certain essential activities. Within its first year of office the nation has assumed ownership of the Bank of England, the coal industry (effective January 1, 1947), telecommunication, and civil aviation. Iron and steel, inland transportation, electricity and gas supply are on the slate for early action.

**T**HE opposition regards nationalization as a doctrinaire measure carried out for political ends without regard to economic logic. The answer of the government is to claim it as a part of a larger plan to breathe new life into Britain's economy, out of gear before the war, and seriously crippled in its course. In no other way will the enormous amount of capital required for the modernization of the coal and steel industries be obtained within a measurable time. These industries have been a perpetual battle ground between workers, dissatisfied with their share of the proceeds, and absentee owners.

Spokesmen for the government believe that nationalization will remove some of the bitterness, improve morale, and level the barrier between workers and management, itself subject to the same obligations as the worker. In the view of the government, nationalization will lift the quality of management. Nepotism has for long been a chronic weakness of British commerce and industry. The "old school tie" makes its frequent appearance in places other than Whitehall. Last but not least, the socialists argue that nationalization will enable industry to gather the fruits of large-scale organization without the concomitant appearances of all the evils which flow from private monopoly. Time alone will show to what extent these anticipations will be realized.

A great deal of nonsense was spouted before the election about the dangers of nationalization. Small shopkeepers, who are a power in the land, were assured that the end of socialist policy would be the absorption of their businesses. Farmers were told that their lands would no longer be privately

owned. The author heard a leading Conservative member, seeking re-election in a populous London suburb, solemnly assure the housewives in his audience that when Mr. Morrison and his cohorts took over the local gas company and absorbed it in a national monopoly, they could no longer pay their bills in the conveniently located office in the High Street of their suburb, but would have to journey to some distant office of Mr. Morrison's choosing.

The electors apparently did not fall for this bally-hoo. In any case it turned out that not more than 15 per cent of the nation's workers will be employed by nationalized enterprises. In order to reach the high targets set for export business the government cannot afford to throttle private enterprise. While exports are substantially higher than they were prewar, they are still a long way from the 75 per cent increase over 1939, calculated as a necessary minimum.

been to expand public investment which, it is hoped, can be stabilized, and is immune to the psychological factors which influence private capital. Conversely, private investment, whose fluctuations have been styled "the engine of our boom-and-bust cycles," has been contracted.

The two Dalton budgets illustrate the government's effort to raise the general level of consumption. Lord Keynes, and other economists, have been teaching Englishmen that the rich spend a smaller percentage of their income than the poor. Any redistribution of income from the rich to the poor will, therefore, increase the level of spending. To this end the Dalton budgets have relieved two-and-a-half million workers from payment of income tax altogether, while raising the level of surtax. In these times, when there is a shortage of goods for consumption, such a policy may have an inflationary



Lamb for bolstering a skimpy ration.

Government strategy marked the Bank of England as the first salient to be captured and consolidated. The Bank has always been the mainspring of financial policy, determining the extension or contraction of credit. Under private ownership there have been occasions when the governors of the Bank have disagreed with the policy of the government of the day, and have used their power to sabotage its program. Nationalization has removed this danger and ensures that the Treasury will be able to regulate interest rates and general financial policy in line with its over-all national economic plan.

As the government's plan unfolds, its other features become clear. The nationalization of the Bank was followed by the Borrowing (Control and Guarantees) Act, by which the government may control the flow of private investment. Companies which desire to borrow must obtain sanction from an official body, which has the power to prevent loans with an inflationary tendency. On the other hand, if private demands for fresh capital fall below a desirable level, the Treasury may, under the same Act, guarantee loans to private companies up to \$200 million annually, or more if necessary.

The effect of government policy has

tendency, but with advancing recovery the national economy will be fortified by spending power against unemployment.

**T**HERE is plenty of evidence to show that housing is still the subject of first importance to millions of Britons, and no matter how well this government may carry out the other parts of its program, if it fails in respect to housing, it will surely be defeated.

Even before the war the provision of working class housing in Britain lagged behind other building construction. The final toll of the successive blitzes was 25,000 houses totally destroyed; 300,000 rendered uninhabitable; and five million damaged out of a total of 13 million. Even more important, according to Britons, is the growing backlog of repairs in houses untouched by enemy action. In prewar days one-third of the building labor force was employed in maintenance. The substantial increase in the number of families, the advancing birth rate, and the unprecedented geographical movements of population have all added to the problem.

The government's long-term policy is to build four million homes by the end of 1956. Meanwhile it has em-

barked on the provision of 160,000 pre-fabs by the end of the coming winter. They are coming from every possible source. Wartime airplane factories are delivering aluminum houses off the end of conveyor belts; concrete castings for main components are being poured at supply centres and delivered by road to assembly points; wooden pre-fabs are being imported from Sweden and Czechoslovakia. But the Englishman doesn't take kindly to temporary housing. He prefers the traditional roomy house to the compact "New World" bungalow, and he puts a relatively low value on modern "gadgets."

In addition to the building plan, local governments have been empowered to requisition dwellings which remain unoccupied. By this means 20,000 families have been given shelter. Rent control was imposed during the war, but was not so effectively administered as in Canada. A new Act in 1946 extended the scope of the old one and provides a better measure of control.

Keeping pace with the home building program a Town Planning Act has been passed which paves the way for the construction of ten new satellite towns, the enlargement of ten existing ones, and an extensive measure of slum clearance. The construction involved may ultimately house four million people. Whether the progress registered under all these schemes will quiet public clamor remains to be seen.

In the field of national health the government has set up a service to which all classes are entitled. Contrary to the adverse criticism of some sections of the medical profession in Britain and abroad, it does not abolish private medical practice. Doctors are permitted private practice and patients may choose their own doctor. The act encourages group medicine through the organization of Health Service Centres. It also brings under national ownership all the hospitals (with some unimportant exceptions). Previous to this, far too many of them depended on charity and led a starveling existence, with a corresponding low standard of service to patients.

**T**IMES have been tough in Britain since the advent of peace, and there has not been the cementing force of national peril which existed during the war. The export drive keeps shop shelves bare and queues are still prevalent although lessening in length. Bread rationing was a keen disappointment, but before the opposition could make political ammunition out of it, the disastrous harvest season demonstrated the foresight of the minister who had the courage to impose it.

But if times have been tough, the people have also been tough. Murmuring there has been, but no discontent comparable to that which led to the wave of American and Canadian strikes. People have resisted the blandishments of those who, in the name of private enterprise, cried for the abolition of controls.

Within the Labor party itself there has been some sharp criticism of foreign policy, especially as regards moves, or the lack of them, in Greece and Spain. But there is no division. The party has doubled in strength, and the increase is due to converts among the younger voters. The British Communist party, as bitterly opposed to the Labor party as to any other political group, has steadily declined since VE day, thanks to the intransigence of Mr. Molotov. An election tomorrow would demonstrate its bankruptcy.

At the end of its first year in office the omens indicate that Mr. Attlee's government, backed by its overwhelming majority, will ride out the rest of its allotted term.



## Your Next House Is Underfoot

The rammed earth house is one answer to the high cost of materials  
By HAL OGEN

H. G. E. "Dusty" Rhodes is an engineer, a scientist who speaks less with words than he does with statistics. Dusty Rhodes never has to glance at notes or books when quoting figures. He thinks in figures, statistics and proven facts. There is no room in his busy mind for unsupported assumptions or guesses.

Consequently when Mr. Rhodes says the average man hasn't a ghost of a chance of owning and holding a decent house, he's making a statement that can be proved. In fact he has figures, compiled for the whole of North America, that show that anyone has just one chance in 60 of owning and holding a house valued at more than twice his annual income. Boiled down it means the \$1,500 a year man can never hope to own a house costing more than \$3,000.

But Dusty Rhodes is not pessimistic about the outlook. Still in his thirties, Mr. Rhodes has no time or patience for pessimism. As an engineer with the Saskatchewan Department of Reconstruction and Rehabilitation, it's part of his business to find ways and means of housing the small-income group. That is, housing them decently. He believes the solution has been found, and, if present plans materialize, he'll make himself the guinea pig that proves it.

"The rammed earth house," he will tell you in his quick staccato manner, "is the best home the engineer has to offer the average man. A home built of rammed earth gives almost perfect insulation. It's practically fireproof. It will last a lifetime; two or three lifetimes. Under present conditions such a house costs about a third less to build, and, best of all, it defeats building

material shortages to a large extent."

**R**AMMED earth apparently was one of the first building materials used by civilized man. Watch towers built of

largely the product of custom.

"Jones builds a frame house because everyone else has done the same thing and also because his contractor can't build any other type. Smith does likewise but he makes his just a little bigger and fancier than Jones'. Smith thinks then that he has something new. But that's nonsense. Both houses are essentially the same. Both are built from lumber



S. O. Brune's rammed earth house in Winnipeg.

rammed earth in Africa and Spain during Hannibal's time, were still in use 250 years later. A rammed earth house erected in Washington, D.C., in 1773 is occupied to this day as are other such constructions in South Carolina that were built more than a hundred years ago. There is little doubt about their durability.

However, rammed earth as a building material has never enjoyed a wide vogue. Mr. Rhodes claims that human unreasonableness is the reason. Houses, he says, are not built by the dictates of geography and suitability. They are

and bricks imported from thousands of miles away. All the time, right underfoot, we have the material for far more suitable houses than we can import."

Mr. Rhodes goes on to tell you that the building of rammed earth houses was apparently at one time a trade, handed down from generation to generation. In modern times the art was almost completely forgotten until low-cost housing became a major problem. Then, in 1938, after extensive experiments, the Farm Security Administration of the U.S. Department of Agriculture built seven rammed earth houses

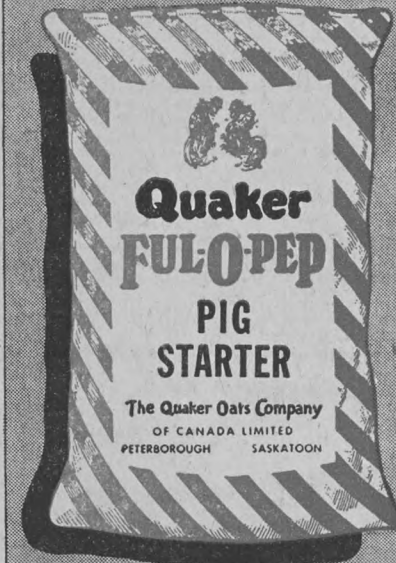
near Gardendale, Alabama. Rough estimates of costs revealed that a three-bedroom house, with 22,500 cubic feet of internal space, could be built for \$2,050. When inspected recently, these houses were still in excellent condition and the tenants, for the most part low-income sharecroppers, were unanimous in praising them.

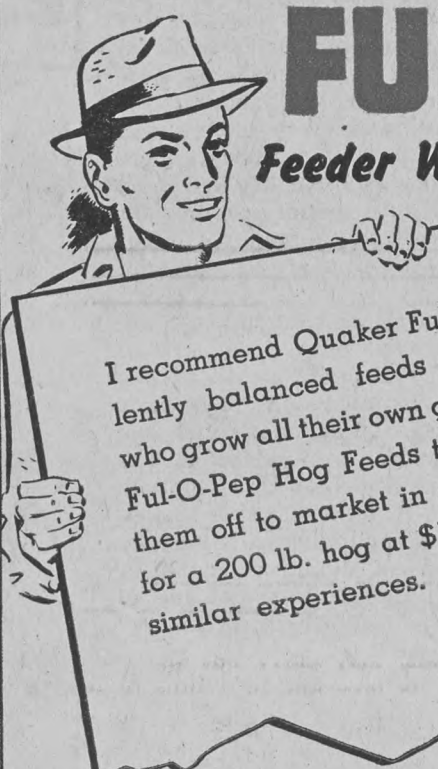
But it is not necessary to go as far as Alabama to see a rammed earth house. There is at least one contractor in Winnipeg who has built and sold rammed earth houses. The first, built in 1937, still stands on St. Anne's Road and it is a safe bet that no one but an expert could tell it was anything but a conventional dwelling.

The owner of this dwelling, S. O. Brune, claims it is the warmest house he has ever lived in, the easiest to heat and the coolest in the summer. It is an eight-room dwelling, stuccoed on the outside and plastered on the inside. Total cost, not counting contractor's profit, was \$1,800.

**A**T the University of Saskatchewan experiments conducted since 1943 have proved that nearly all prairie soils are suitable for rammed earth construction. Clifford John Simpson, Saskatoon, who compiled an exhaustive thesis on the University experiments, found that the thermal conductivity of rammed earth is almost zero. That means greatly reduced heating costs. He also found that rammed earth is so impervious to Saskatchewan's extreme weather conditions that no protective coating was needed, but that stucco could be used to improve the appearance.

Dusty Rhodes, however, does not agree with this last conclusion. As a result of extensive research and study, he has become convinced that if the rammed earth walls are left untouched for about a year, they acquire a natural, pebbled appearance that can hardly be matched by stucco. When this desirable effect





# FUL-O-PEP

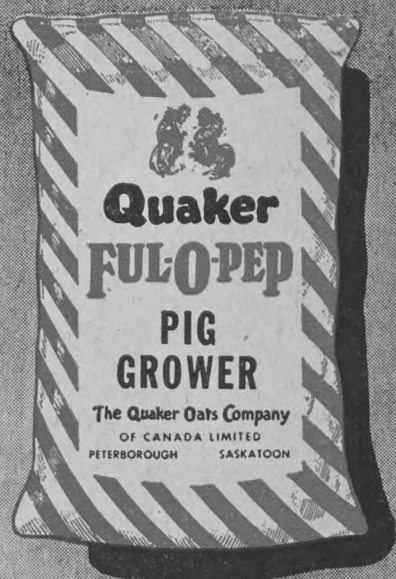
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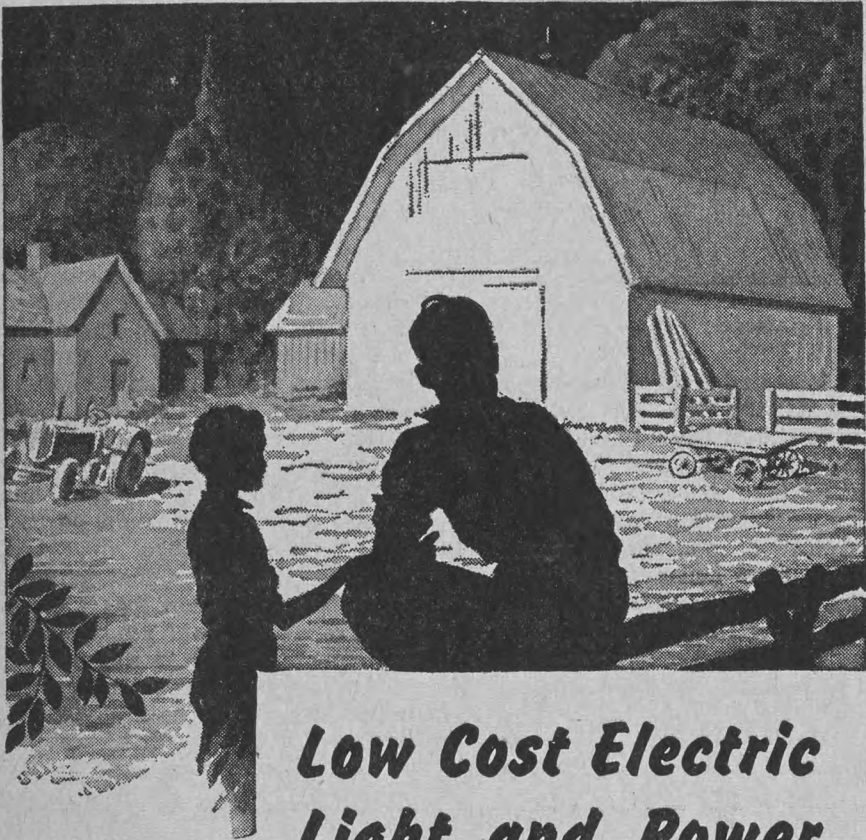


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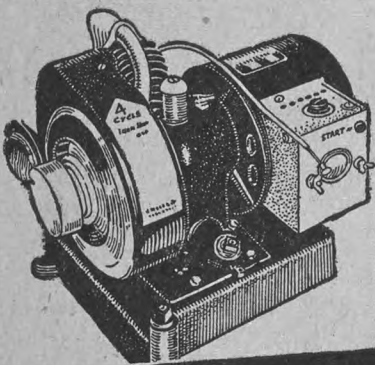


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146

has been obtained, it is only necessary to spray the walls with a transparent solution of casein glue and the effect is then permanent. Stuccoing and plastering, in his opinion, only add needless expense.

One of the great advantages of rammed earth construction lies in its simplicity. Only the simplest equipment is needed. A few spades for digging the earth, one wooden form about seven feet long and forty-two inches high, and a couple of flat-faced iron tamping poles will just about put a man in business.

The main constituents of a rammed earth wall, sand, fibreless soil and water, can be mixed by hand. The mixture is then placed in the wooden form and pounded, or tamped, until the desired hardness is obtained.

That of course is only the sketchiest outline of the rammed earth technique and Mr. Rhodes hastens to warn amateurs against proceeding on such limited knowledge. For satisfactory results, the mixture must consist of about 75 per cent sand and 25 per cent earth. This mixture must then be leavened with about 12 per cent moisture. In addition, the forms used must be so constructed that they can be taken apart after each load has been tamped down. The forms must also be very rugged and yet light enough so that they can readily be removed by two or three men.

"Anyone contemplating a rammed earth house should first write to the University of Saskatchewan, Department of Engineering, for technical data," he advises. "In comparison to other forms of building, the rammed earth technique is probably the simplest of all. But certain fundamental rules must be followed. The prospective builder will save himself an awful lot of grief by getting the proper information before he starts."

SO far, all of Mr. Rhodes' work in this field has been of an experimental nature. He anticipates that labor will be the big expense. "In ordinary buildings," Mr. Rhodes points out, "the cost of labor only accounts for 35 cents on every dollar. But in rammed earth construction the labor will account for probably 70 cents on every dollar spent. That's under present methods, where all work is done by hand. We are going to experiment with special machines for mixing, loading and tamping. We expect this will cut the over-all cost drastically."

Whether the rammed earth house will ever become an important part of prairie life, remains to be seen. The spade work has been done. The basic materials are as common as dirt and the technique has been perfected. The research of such men as C. J. Simpson of Saskatoon, H. G. E. "Dusty" Rhodes of Regina, and the individual enterprise of S. O. Brune of Winnipeg, may have solved one of the greatest problems of modern times—that of housing the low-income families.



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## THE WILD BUNCH

Continued from page 9

the desert crowd got a broken back when Harry Ide was killed. It all came out your way."

Virginia turned to Goodnight. "Let's ride back to Sun," she said, and moved on with her horse. Goodnight came abreast of her and presently Bob Carruth swung up to them and these three rode the black highway homeward, each one wrapped in silence. Coming down the narrow meadow which faced Sun, Goodnight saw bunkhouse lights burning and lifted his voice by way of warning. "Tap—Slab."

A shape showed momentarily at the bunkhouse door and slid on into the dark. "Who's there?"

"All right—all right," called Bob Carruth.

The three rode into the yard. Tap and Slab came up. Carruth said, "Anybody been here?"

"Boston Bill came by and stopped to eat. He went on. There was a hell of a bust of riding around here afterwards. Small jags of men comin' down from Roselle. They didn't stop here. What happened?"

"World fell down," said Carruth crankily. "I'm goin' to tell the cook to get somethin' on the table." He went away, leaving Goodnight and the girl. She looked a moment at Goodnight, the shadows covering whatever her face held. She dropped to the ground. She said, "Put away my horse, Frank." Then her voice sank to a lower tone, softer and warmer. "I'll be in the big room when you come."

HE took her horse to the corral, stripped off the gear and lugged it back to the front porch. He dropped it there. She had left the front door open as an invitation; she had gone to some other part of the house. He looked into the front room for a moment and turned away, crossing back to the bunkhouse. He had his own blanket on the bed and his own traveling kit in the condensed-milk box tacked up near the bunk. He took his shaving material and walked to the kitchen. He got himself some hot water and shaved in front of the back-door mirror; he washed up and he went into the dining room, finding Carruth there. He sat down with Carruth, waiting for the Chinaman to bring supper in.

Carruth stared at Goodnight's face. "Saturday night already?" Then he got to thinking about it. "No, this is Thursday. Time's all gummed up. Did you take a look into that saloon?"

"No."

"It was bad," said Carruth.

The Chinaman came in with coffee and ham and eggs. He said: "What's matter you not come when right time is to eat? All-time I cook. I damn tired. Come and go, come and go. No good. This no hotel."

Carruth reached for an extra cup on the table. He balanced it and threw it and missed the Chinaman. The cup broke against the wall and the Chinaman, once in the kitchen, began to curse. They ate and they rolled up their smokes. Carruth said: "Well, she came out on top."

"You said that before."

Carruth flicked his glance across Goodnight's face. He said: "Where'd Bill chase you?"

"Up into a canyon. Old mining operation there."

"Glory Mine. Where'd you go then?"

"A trail took me to the main road over the mountains. I met Virginia when I was riding toward Roselle. She had Tower and a few men there, watching for Bill."

"A few men?" said Carruth. He shook

his head. "You know how many she had lined up? Close to thirty. She was waiting for Bill to collect his outfit. If Harry Ide hadn't cleaned out that bunch, she would have done it."

GOODNIGHT said nothing. The information puzzled him. Virginia might have told him this in the beginning, and had not. He could not understand the reason for her secrecy except perhaps that it was a part of her complete independence, her dislike to share her affairs or her power with others. Maybe she was like her father. He scowled over the cigarette smoke, tracing aimless outlines on the table with the thick hard edge of his thumbnail. Bob Carruth studied him with a good deal of care, with a secret liking for him, with a wish for his well-being that he would never openly have expressed. This young man, Carruth had already decided, was meant for the straight road and never any other. He was a man meant for riding in the sunlight. He had sharp edges to him, a sound mind untouched by the sly and evil and spongy thoughts of the wild bunch. He was the kind of a man who needed to laugh and find fun in the world. It had been a long time, Carruth guessed, since he'd either laughed or been completely at ease. There was a weight on him and a darkness, and he struggled with some tough problem that would not let him alone, with some feeling that had him bound in its thousand thin strands.

"Frank," said Carruth, "these hills are too damned full of shadows for a man of your sort. Get back into the desert and ride until you feel like you ought to feel."

Goodnight gave him a surprised, open look. "Where'd you pick that up?"

"I can read what I see in front of me," said Carruth.

"A man," said Goodnight thoughtfully, "can never go back."

"A man can never do the same piece of trail over again. But he can always turn into the one he ought to be on."

"What trail?" asked Goodnight. He was interested. He watched Carruth, asking a question he badly needed answered.

Carruth thought it out in his head over a long silence. He searched himself anxious to find something that would bite into the young man's mind and strike response in his heart; at last he shook his head. "I never was much for talk. I can't tell you." Then with a mild sort of desperation he pointed toward the big house. "But I can tell you one thing. The trail don't lay through that door. Get your roll on your horse and get off the place before it is too late."

"You don't like her," said Goodnight coolly. "I have noticed that."

"I worked on this place twelve years," pointed out Carruth. "I got my rights to like or dislike."

"Then why do you stay?"

"This," said Carruth, "is my last meal here."

"Why?" asked Goodnight.

He got no answer to that. Carruth simply closed his heavy jaws, rose and left the room. Goodnight tapered up a second cigarette and lighted it and sat still, drumming his knuckles on the table. He had the sensation of being afloat, of being carried downstream against his will. He had muscles to use and a mind and a will, and these lay idle and nothing good was done, and he sat sour and restless, close by some one thing he needed, but could not find. He shrugged his shoulders. He thought: "I can do what I started out to do. I can follow Boston Bill." It was like that with him now; he had to have a chore, and this was his chore. He rose and left the mess hall, moving idly across the yard toward his horse. He stopped in the middle of the yard, looking at the open door of the big house, and a breeze

## "I'd like 11,506,651<sup>8</sup> others to hear this"

"NO post mortems!" warned Ida, glancing at Ruth. "The game's over. Besides, your husband looks as though he has something on his mind."

"I sure have," said Bill. "Only I'd like the other 11,506,651 Canadians to hear this too. To-day I got hold of some figures that made me proud of the business I'm in. We Canadians now own more than 10 billion dollars worth of life insurance. And payments? During 1945 alone, the companies paid out about 66½ million dollars to widows, children and other beneficiaries. And another 95 million dollars was paid to living policyholders through matured endowments, dividends, disability claims, annuities and cash surrender values. That's what life insurance is doing for us Canadians."

"These life insurance benefits helped to pay off mortgages on homes, start youngsters off to college, settle older people into comfortable retirement. Countless families have thanked their stars for life insurance in time of need. Many, many others who are now building future security through their policies will be glad of it. But I want every living Canadian to realize the importance of Life Insurance."

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Every life insurance dollar, while waiting to be paid out to its claimant, is working and growing in the service of the public, creating more jobs and more goods for more Canadians. Of that dollar about 57 cents is now invested in Government bonds, 5 cents is laboring for municipalities, 20 cents is building industries and public utilities from coast to coast, 8 cents is in farm and urban mortgages, another 5 cents is on loan to policyholders, 1½ cents is represented by real estate and 3½ cents is in cash and miscellaneous assets.

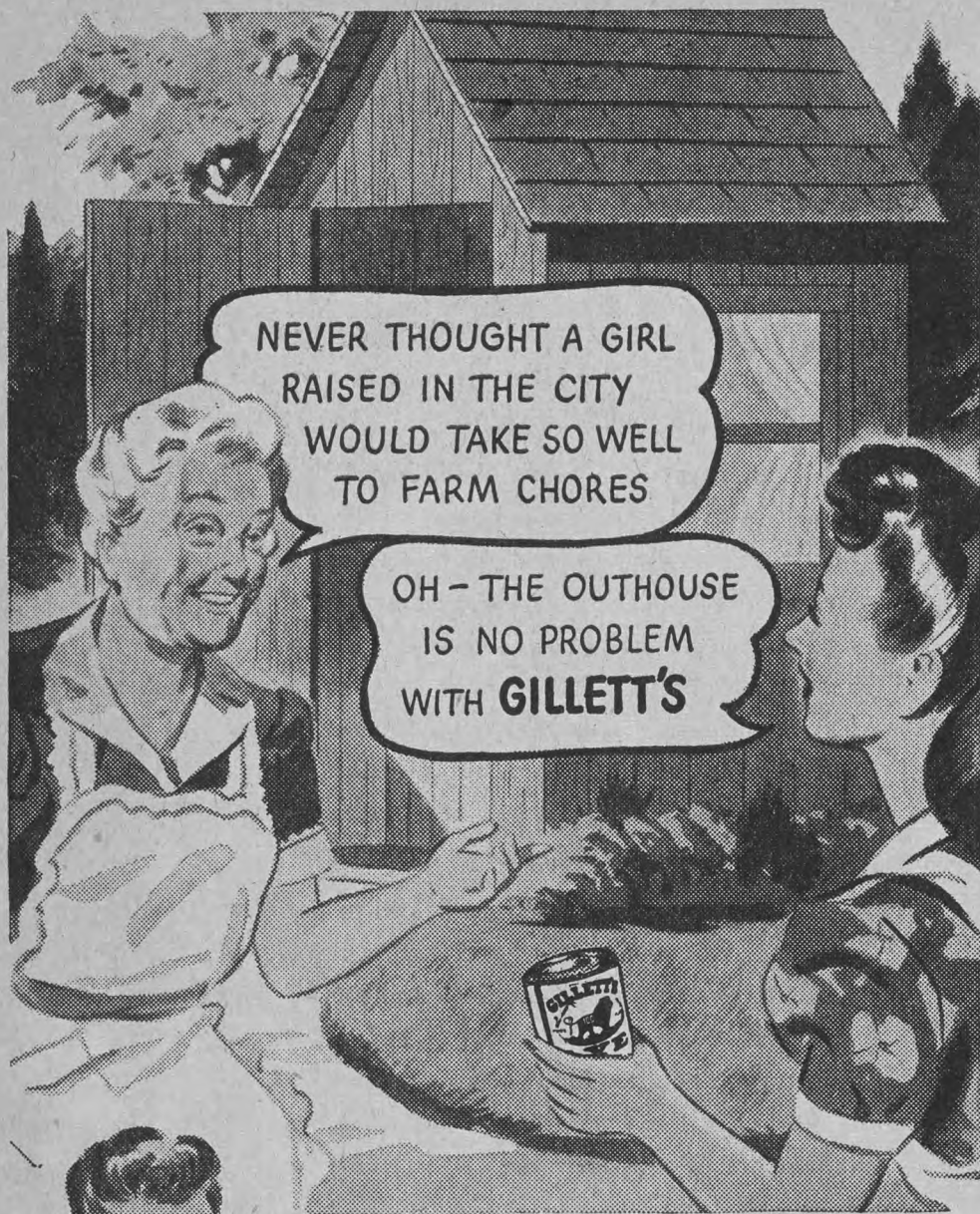
Life insurance not only grows in the scope of its protection, year after year, but is continually being employed for socially desirable purposes.

*A message from the Life Insurance Companies in Canada and their agents.*

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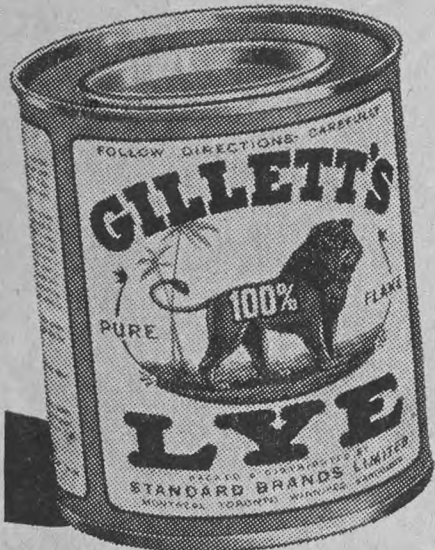
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of interest suddenly blew through him and he had a light and eager feeling that moved him to the house.

When he got inside he found Virginia waiting for him. She said, "Shut the door," and watched him lay his big hand backward against it. She had combed her hair, so that it lay soft and neat along her head; she had changed her clothes and wore now a green dress with faint threads of gold in it. Against it, her breasts and her shoulders lay firm, and vitality came out of her, and in her steady smiling was a warmth that fell generously upon him, with its open invitation, its promise. She faced him with her calm waiting, proud of herself and sure of what she wanted him to have.

He came toward her, wanting all of it. He put his hand on her arm, watching her eyes widen. They were soft grey and light danced upon them, making her spirit gay; he saw her lips lengthen and begin to draw apart and he guessed she was thinking of him in the same violently desiring way he thought of her. He took her in and kissed her, his mouth bearing down hard and heavy upon her. He felt her wishes come up to him, he felt her give and he thought at that moment he had reached the end of the road.

It was only a momentary thought. Deep in the thundering rush of feeling, the chill of some strange and darkly unknown mystery came in harsh counter-current. He felt the wonder slip away, he felt this women retreat from him, he felt himself recoil. He stepped back from her and he dropped his arms, looking at her and hating the change with all his heart. The warmth of her lips had died in that single instant; they had turned lifeless and unpleasant.

She knew it as well. Her eyes were wide and watchful; they mirrored the oddest expression he had seen, cool and tragically calm. She let her hands drop and her shoulders fell down and then, to cover the blank, stony emptiness of what had happened, she began to talk in a light, hurried way.

"You're all tired out. Why don't you turn in and get a long night's sleep?"

"That will come," he said.

"Frank," she said, "those bunkhouse beds are hard. Use the extra bedroom tonight."

"That would look odd."

"Does it matter?"

"Better not," he said.

SHE drew a short, swift breath. She looked closely at him, trying to read the immediate things in his mind. "My father," she said, "would have been happy. For the first time in twenty years Sun has no strong enemies to worry over. Harry Ide hated us so much. He made all the trouble. The rest of them won't."

"Fine," he said, "fine," and found himself struggling with a leaden conviction. He had to leave here.

"Frank," she said, "I meant what I said the other day. You're foreman." She watched him with a greater and greater closeness, noting the solidness



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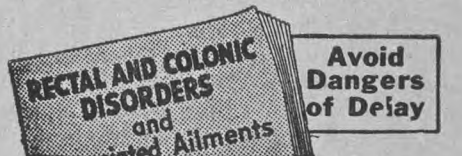
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coming to his face. He started to speak. She stopped him by the quick onrush of her words. "How can I say what I mean, Frank? Sun is as much yours as it is mine—if you wish it that way. Or was I wrong in thinking you wanted me when you kissed me?"

She made it harder and harder for him. Each word she spoke built a fence around him, binding his sense of honor. In a little while the fence would be too high.

"I'm pulling out, Virginia."

"But why?"

It was like a cry, spoken rapidly and at the top of her voice, full of dammed-up wonder and defeat and misery. The calmness went away, the pride went away. She stood before him, stripped of aloofness, turned naked to him by her defeat; in that terrible instant he saw the glory go out of her and never afterwards did he forget the moment. He shook his head. "I don't know why, Virginia. Never any answer to a thing like that."

"I'm not enough, am I?" she asked him, holding herself together. "Oh, don't bother to be nice to me. I want the truth. I'm not enough. I've known it for a long while. I've known it ever since I was a girl. I've looked in the mirror and seen it. I've gone to bed and thought, through the hours, that there was something I didn't have—never would have. What is it? Please—what is it?"

"There's a man for you," he said. "For that man you've got everything."

"Oh, no," she said, dull and bitterly sure. "No, I'll never have it for any man. I can tell. By the way they look at me. For a while, when you looked at me, I thought everything was all right. You're the first one. I would have killed Bill for you, Frank, because of the way you looked at me. Then you kissed me—and you knew. Just as the others knew without kissing me."

The talk hurt him worse than a beating. It slashed his sympathy; it broke through him in a thousand ways until he could no longer keep his glance on her.

"Well," she said in a quiet, resigned tone, "put Sun Ranch with me. Isn't that enough?"

"No," he said, more and more embarrassed.

"No," she whispered, "of course not. It would do for Bill. But not for you." She made a little gesture with her hands, resigned and saddened. "It would be nice to have the love of a man, so close, so strong, so deep. But I have other things and I suppose I must be content."

He nodded and turned away. He reached the door when her voice stopped and turned him. She came forward, managing a smile. She took both his hands and held them a moment and the strange changed occurred once more in her, making her sweet. She wanted nothing of him then, nor wanted to put her will upon him; and in this way she was beautiful. "Goodbye," she murmured, and kissed him and turned away.

He moved over to the bunkhouse, past Carruth and Tap and Slab. He rolled his blanket and came out and tied it behind the saddle. The three men watched him as he swung up. Carruth smiled at him. He lifted a hand at them and rode into the dark, toward Sherman City.

"Ah," said Carruth in a soft, pleased tone. Tap and Slab presently moved into the bunkhouse, leaving him to his reflections. He was still there, fifteen minutes later, when Virginia came out of the house to him. She stood near him. She murmured: "I'm lonely, Bob."

"You didn't have your way," he said. "Is that it? Is that the thing?"

"I remember when you were a girl," he said. "A damned sweet girl until somethin' went against you. Then you cried and busted things, and everybody gave in. You always got your way."

"The things I wanted," she said, "were always right."

"It all led to this," he said. "Then this must be right, you losin' this man. Therefore you should be glad, because it's right. I'll be leavin', too. I have been ashamed of you."

She stared at him. She wheeled, looking wildly around her. There was a chopping block near the door, with a small axe sunk into it. She seized the axe and whirled with it, striking out at him, roused to a rage that could not be controlled. He ducked as the axe grazed his shoulder, and he turned and seized it and flung it away. She came at him, her breath hard and heavy; she scratched his face deeply and she slapped him and doubled her fists and hit him like a man would hit. He caught her and pinned her arms to her sides. He spoke through the strong draw of his breathing:—

"You didn't get your way."

She ceased to fight, she fell against him. He pushed her away and went around the bunkhouse. He got his horse out of the corral and threw on the gear and led it back. He went inside and rolled up his belongings and came out and lashed them down. She stood dumb in the shadows, watching him, her eyes round and unwinking. He had started off when she called to him:

"Bob, don't go. I've got nothing left."

"You'll get somebody."

"No," she said. "Nobody'll stay. You're the only one. You're like my father, you go back to the beginning. You put up with me. Nobody else ever would. I'll be good. Don't go."

HE was fifty feet away when he stopped. He heard her crying in a small, helpless fashion and the sound went through him and got at him. He knew the meanness in her, he knew the punishment he would take from her in the future; but he remembered how she had been, far back, as a small girl depending upon him and admiring him. It was a tie that he couldn't break. He thought: "Well, Goodnight got away. I guess one's enough. I guess I stay." He rode back to her and got down. "All right," he said. "You can stop cryin' now. You got your way."

"Can I borrow your horse?"

"Where you goin'?"

"To Sherman City. I don't want him to meet Bill. He's still got his mind on killing Bill. If I can stop it, that will be a good thing I've done, won't it?"

"You can try it," he said grudgingly. Then, as she moved, he called after her: "Leave Goodnight alone."

"It would do no good to see him again, Bob."

He settled back against the wall, smoking out a fresh cigarette. He thought: "I suppose the next twelve years will be as bad as the last twelve," and felt unhappy at his own weakness. Still, somebody had to be by her. Somebody who knew her and could understand the sweetness so interwoven with the badness. Then he thought: "I wonder if she figures to get Boston Bill now, as the best of a bad bargain?" The idea both alarmed and intrigued him. It would be like her.

BOSTON BILL reached Sherman City at midnight and circled to the back side of a small house at the lower end of town; this was scarcely more than a comfortable shed belonging to Mack Honnicut, a prospector, who used it only as headquarters when he came in from the hills. Bill moved into the place, lighted a lamp and pulled down the blinds on the two windows. It appeared Honnicut had recently been to town. The table was occupied with empty whiskey bottles, the blankets on the bed were all in a dishevelled state and a frying pan sat on the cold stove with its scum of bacon grease. Bill found part of a drink in one of the bottles and sat on the bed a moment to consider his position.

Harry Ide had missed him and would



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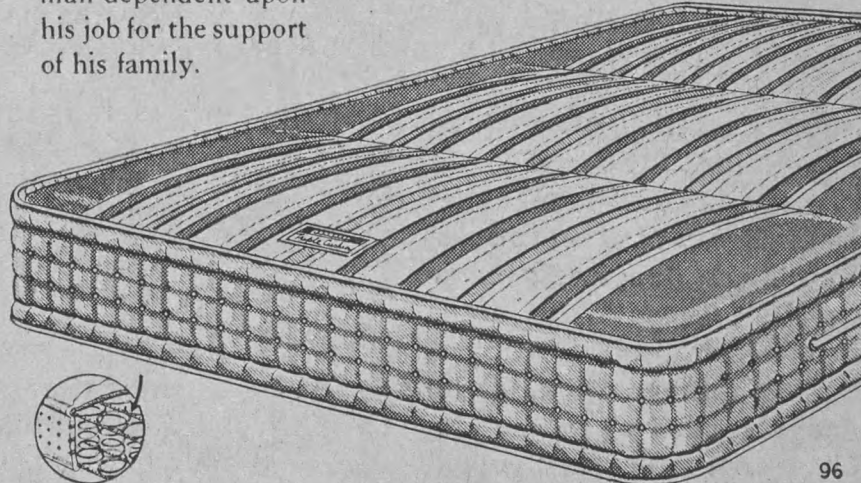
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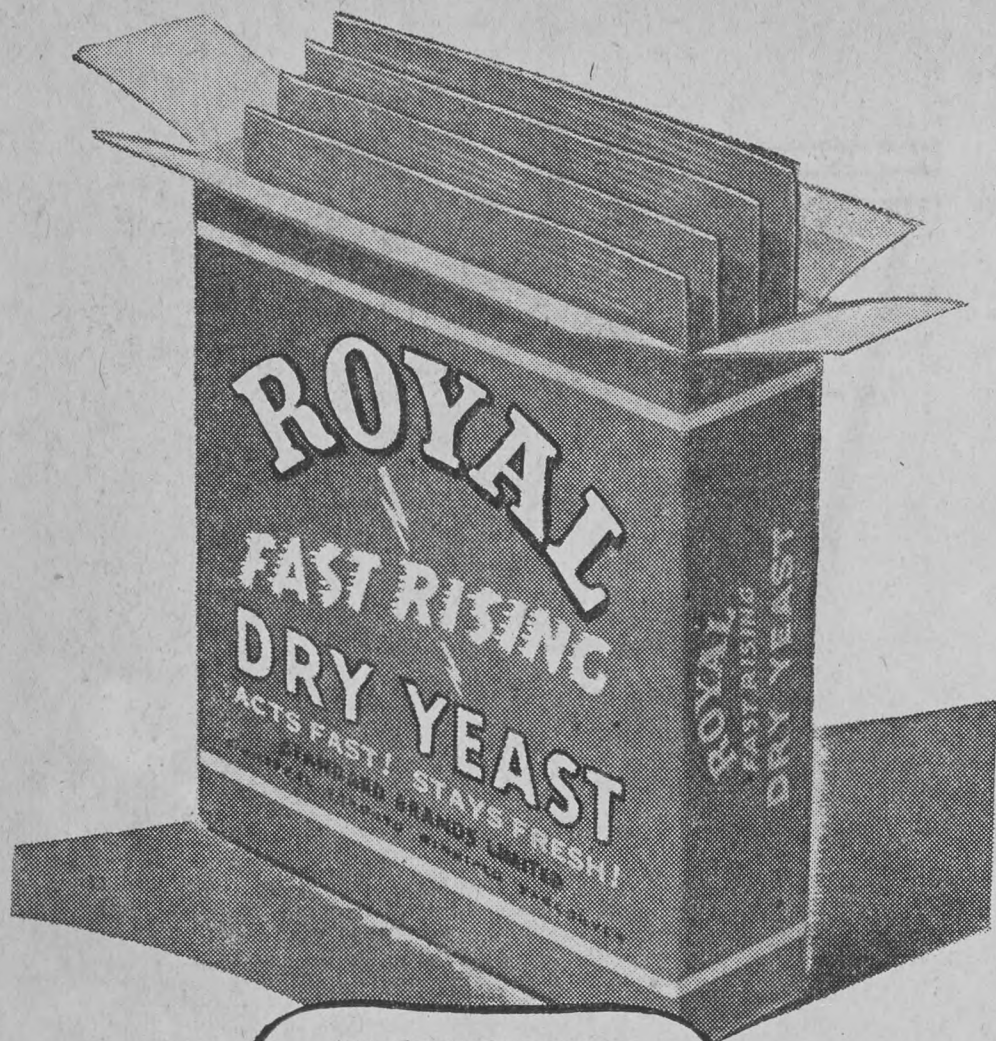
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let no grass grow under his feet to hit him again. Too much had happened to let it rest as it was. Ide would be coming back through town shortly and no doubt put up for the night, and soon enough would know that he, Bill, was here. It was too small a town to hide in; too many eyes were always watching. He needed a fresh horse, a meal and some supplies, and then he needed to fade out.

He considered where he would go. His crowd was broken up. He had no idea how many had died, and he refused to guess; that whole scene in Roselle was too grisly a thing to face. As for those who had escaped, they would no doubt be hiding in the hills. They would not, for fear of Ide's further vengeance, go back to the headquarters ranch and they would not stay long in the Owl-horns. He knew them too well to expect they would form again and make a stand. They were outlaws, men on the run, brave when cornered and fighting for their own particular lives or when the weight of numbers gave them a feeling of safety. But once attacked and defeated, they would run. They were that kind.

Even if they remained, Bill realized he could not go back to them. He had lost his leadership over them. The plans he had so long nourished were dashed down, his dreams of power were done. He got up and hunted for another drink, and found it, and he had a good look at himself as he stood solitary in the room; and he silently said: "Everything I touch goes bad. It has always been that way. I was never born to be lucky or successful. Not in the stars."

It was hard to know why that should be. He had a better mind, a bolder and more fertile mind than any man in the hills. He saw what other men did not see. He had no illusions to blind him and very few scruples to halt him. He was a free man, possessing power and ambition and logic. He could drive toward anything he wished and be anything he wished, while lesser men threshed around without energy, handcuffed by their stupidities or bound by a code of morals meant for the common and the timid. Traveling thus, he could travel far; for the world was the prize of the man who dared. Then why had he not traveled far?

Somewhere his logic was at fault and somewhere he had failed himself, and he looked at himself in the furtive and fearful way of a man who knows the fault and will not face it, and he said to himself, softly and with self-pity, "I was born without luck. Damn the world for cheating me of what is mine."

He remembered how near he had been to victory when, surprising Ide on the latter's ranch, he held the whole key to his fortunes in his hand. That had been the turning point; that had been the moment of success and the moment of disaster. He reviewed it, morbidly seeing it, desperately wishing that it might have been different. Goodnight had turned it into disaster.

"I should," he thought, "have faced him then. I was too easy." Why had he not challenged him at that instant? Why had he not, when other chances came, faced it out with Goodnight? Somehow he had let his opportunities slip through his fingers. He reviewed those moments one by one, seeking the key to his own failure, and in each instance his sharp mind came back to something within himself that he suspected and distantly knew, but would not openly look upon.

"I've got to get away," he told himself, and left the house by the rear door. He continued with the back line, going toward the hotel with the intention of entering the kitchen for something to eat and something to carry away. He came to the small yard behind Rosalia's house and he saw the light shining through the window, and hurried as he was, the light caught him like a magnet

and drew him to the door. He tapped on the door and opened it before he heard her answer, sliding through and closing the door behind. Standing in the kitchen, he saw her come tall and grave out of her bedroom. She had her hair braided down for the night and she wore a long blue robe, and she faced him in a way that made his defeat indescribably the worse. This was the woman to whom he wished to bring his victories; this was the woman he wanted to sway, to seize. As in so many other events of his life, he realized he had once come near to capturing her. Once she had looked upon him with a different expression, interested and undecided. He had reached for her and he had tried to command her, and had failed. Why had he failed? It was the old question haunting him again.

"Rosalia," he said, and heard horse-men beating through town. "What are you dreaming about?"

"Where have you been?"

"In the hills."

He noticed concern come to her face and he wondered at it. She reached up, drawing the edges of her robe more tightly around her throat. "What happened?"

"Harry Ide caught my party at Roselle. It was tough."

"Is that all?" she asked.

"I expect he's still on my trail. I'm leaving."

"What else?"

He said, "Isn't that enough?"

There was a shouting in town, the quick hark of voice answering voice. Horses wheeled in the centre of town and afterwards came hard by this house, running down toward the desert.

She said: "Didn't Goodnight find you?"

"I didn't find him," he said. "I let him slip through my fingers."

He saw the loosening of her body beneath the robe. He thought, "All that beauty stirring at the mention of one man's name. All that round, full surface responding to the thought of him. Why isn't it mine?"

"Bill," she said, "you'd better go. Ide or Goodnight, one or the other, will watch for you and trap you on some road, in some canyon, down some dark alley."

"Do you care?" he asked and felt a small stir of hope.

"No," she said, "not for you. You deserve to die. Of all the men I know, you are the one who best understood the things you were doing. Every step of the way you knew good from evil, and knew you were doing evil. Other men have done these same things, never knowing better, or doing them because they felt they could do nothing else. You did them because you wanted to, even as your judgment warned you."

"Then why worry about me?" he said, short and sullen.

"I don't want another killing on Goodnight's record."

"That is the man, isn't it?"

She closed up and looked at him with her dark judgment. What she felt was close and treasured and she would not cheaply share it. He watched expression play over her expressive face; he saw the generosity of her mouth, the glow of her eyes—and he would have sold all his remaining hopes of life to have possessed the wonder he saw at that moment in her. For he was a man keenly aware of beauty, tortured by its nearness that never came nearer. He drew a long breath.

"I've been a sinner. Who hasn't been? I am my own worst enemy, but who is not? There has never been a day I have not thought of you. Never a campfire I have not seen your face within. Would it help if I told you heaven for me is in your eyes? Through all the evil sounds of this world, I hear your voice. In the worst of misery I feel the touch of your hand. Don't you suppose I know what I miss when you hold your tenderness away from me? Don't you think I realize



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you would be, for me, the greatest thing in my life? Standing this near to you, I know I'm as close to goodness as I shall ever be. I know. There is a part of me you could lift up until the worst of me would die out. I know what I am, Rosalia. I know what I have lost."

She shook her head and she was sorry for him. Pity came out of her in a warm wave, changing her lips as she stood so solemn and straight before him. She murmured: "It is strange, and sad."

"The strangeness is," he said in a changed and sulky voice, "that I'd go down on my knees and bind myself in chains for something you'll give away to Goodnight without any promise at all."

"Perhaps," she said.

A hand tapped the back door. Rosalia went by Bill, to the door. She stood there, listening to a man's soft voice, and she came back to face Bill again. She studied him with another expression, turned still and sure; and it came to him then as a queer thought that his recent life had been thrown against two women poles apart except for one common thing: they both had strong wills, they both had iron in them. He had suffered defeat at the hands of both of them because of it. Looking at Rosalia now, her silent resolution, her calmness that weighed him and decided upon him, it was as though Virginia stood in her place. They were both stronger than he was; in one terribly candid moment he admitted it.

"You need a fresh horse," said Rosalia, "and some food to pack with you. Rex—"

The man had apparently been outside the door all this while. He said, "Yeah."

"Take Bill's horse over to the stable and swap his gear to a fresh horse. Stop in at the hotel kitchen and find him some food he can carry along." She looked at Bill. She said: "Your horse will be at the stable. Goodbye, Bill."

He sensed a change, he suspected it. "What's up?"

She watched him, knowing him and not wholly trusting him; and there was a shadow of trouble upon her. "Harry Ide was killed at Roselle. Didn't you know?"

"No," he said. "No." But a black pleasure sprang through him and he said, "That pays back some of it." He stood still, running this new information through his head. It made a difference. It took away the haste and the fear, so that the old illusion of personal greatness came again, and he had his swift hope of retrieving glory out of disaster. Everything changed that rapidly. He looked at her and smiled.

"There's no hurry about the horse."

"Goodnight is still after you, Bill."

"No," he said. "I'm after Goodnight. Do you think I'll let him go? He was the beginning of this trouble."

"You'll go," she said, iron-calm again.

He understood what was in her mind and it made him a little vengeful. "You're afraid he'll die."

"I don't want him to kill another man," she said.



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"He won't," said Bill.

"And I will not have you standing in a dark alley waiting for him."

The blacker side of his temper came up. "Let him fight his own fight. If he's worth as much as you think, let him prove it. I won't run from him."

She lifted her voice. "Rex," she said, and waited until Rex stepped to the door. He had heard this talk; he had his gun half lifted, half ready. "Rex," she said, "if this man isn't out of Sherman City within fifteen minutes I shall blame you."

Bill stared at her, trying to face her down, to shame the streak of cruelty she used on him; but she held his glance, stronger than he was, simpler and braver and more primitive. He saw that she had one great resolve, which was that Goodnight should not suffer; and for that she would let nothing stand in her way. He shook his head when he was certain of it and his last vague hope of winning her died. He bowed his head. "You know," he said conversationally, "I never really understood the people in this land. I never belonged here."

"No," she said, "you don't. You will always be hunting a land better than the one you're in. You will always fail. Goodbye, Bill."

He nodded and passed out, feeling the poorness of his showing. He was bitter at her and bitter at himself and he went down the alley with self-mockery in his heart and sly schemes half awake in his head. Rex tramped behind him, all the way to the corral. Rex called into the corral. "Jap. This man can have the big sorrel with the star." He turned to Bill, dead-set and positive, a dangerous man handling a man he believed to be less dangerous. "You stay here while I go get your horse."

Bill watched him turn the corner of the saloon; he heard his steps tramp steadily along the walk, that sound breaking into the night stillness. The lights of town had been turned out when he first had entered. Now they were on again, glowing from doorway and window, and he knew men stood in the shadows watching him. On the high side of town the sound of a horse came along rapid and loose—the slightly ragged pace of a tired horse being pushed. Bill drew back into the stable's arch, waiting.

The rider broke into view at the head of the street, shadowed and unknown. The beams of house-light flickered vaguely on him as he crossed them, swung at the corner and came straight for the stable. Bill stood still, drawn half inside the stable's wide doorway, turned keen as the rider moved through the stable, dropped down and stepped aside from the horse. The man came to the mouth of the doorway and paused there to build a smoke. He stood, bent slightly forward, a grey and not wholly distinct shadow, and he remained this way until he had finished his smoke. Boston Bill heard the man's hands scrape along his trousers and his coat, searching for a match, and then he heard the sound stop and he saw the shadow grow still. Presently the man made a slow quarter turn toward Bill. He had sensed Bill. In a little while his prying eyes located Bill's shadow at the edge of the doorway. He waited, cautious and silent, not sure of what was before him. He let the silence drag, and grew weary of it, and challenged:

"You got a match?"

It was Goodnight's voice.

Boston Bill started to answer and then his throat stopped up and he remained still. He wanted to answer, he wanted to warn this man he so thoroughly hated, this man at whose door he laid so large a part of his recent misfortunes. He wanted to call his own name and identify himself and then draw and have an end to it all.

But even as he wished to do this—wholly honorable and face to face, without evasion or trickery as he had once said he would—that streak within him



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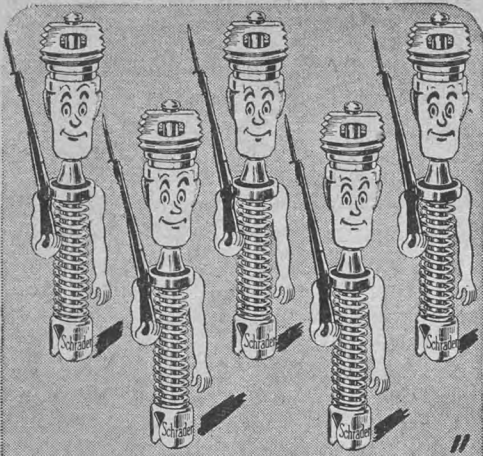
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which was sly and untrustworthy got complete possession of him and would not let him speak. All his words of bravery and all his wishing for a great life fell down at a moment like this. The foundation of his nature was that unstable. For a moment he faced the truth and was bitterly ashamed; and then as he had done so many times before, he ignored his shame and pretended it did not exist, and he stepped deeper into the shadows. Thus he had Goodnight more clearly framed against the open arch of the stable.

Goodnight said: "What the hell you fiddling around there for? Stand still. Who are you?"

Boston Bill moved steadily backward. He touched the end of a stall, he grazed the tail of a horse; he swung rapidly aside as the horse, spooked by the unexpected contact, struck out with its foot. Goodnight said: "Stand fast or I'll fire," and at the same moment he drew out of the arch, into the more solid blackness of the barn.

Boston Bill cursed himself for his lost chance. He drew and he waited. He stopped, listening for the sound of Goodnight, and heard nothing. He thought: "If I cross over and stand against the stalls on that side I'll catch him against the light again." He moved out, very softly and without any sound in the spongy dirt. He was half over when a bullet's explosion battered the silence and cracked against the sides and roof of the building. The breath of it touched him; he heard the spent slug slap against a far board as he jumped against the edge of a stall. He said aloud: "Damn you, I'll outguess you."

"Bill," said Goodnight and remained silent a considerable time. Then he said: "I came down here to wind up this deal. Step out to the street."

"This is good enough," said Bill.

**GOODNIGHT** listened to the voice carefully. He placed its source somewhere along his own side of the stable halfway toward the rear. He swung a little, watching for Bill to expose himself once more by crossing against the pale hole of the rear entrance. He guessed that Bill, in attempting to manoeuvre him against the front entrance, had forgotten about the rear doorway. He waited, and as he waited he remembered Niles Brand smiling at him and he turned cold and hatred came to him again as it had so often before. He felt it pour through him, changing him, chilling him. Patience made rock out of him so that he could have waited forever. It was waiting that would break Bill down, as it had broken McSween.

He heard at last a sigh come out of Boston Bill. It was a sudden need for air which betrayed Bill and he seemed to know it, for he began to fire with a pure recklessness, raking the corner of the stable. Goodnight stepped inside an empty stall. He heard a horse begin to thresh, and stumble and drop; he heard all the horses fiddle in their stalls. He counted three shots and knew Boston Bill could not have more than two more, counting the one bullet already spent. Probably he had only one left. A man seldom rode with his hammer lying on the sixth cartridge.

He called: "I'm comin' forward, Bill," and moved out of the stall on soft feet. He meant to make this man back away toward the rear door and thus come against the dull patch of light. He crawled past a horse and halted at the edge of another stall; he slid into it and repeated, "I'm comin' forward," and stepped on. He felt a bridle hanging near by; he reached up, softly unhooked it from its peg, and balanced it in his hand. He let a full half minute pile up, and then threw the bridle across the stable. It struck with a short-echo, and drew Bill's fifth bullet.

"You wasted that one," said Goodnight. "I'm not there."

He made out the scrape of Bill's body against a wall and when he heard it he drew up his gun and laid it on the vague patch of light at the end of the stable and waited. It wasn't a long wait. This man had less pure nerve than McSween—and McSween had broken. Therefore he wasn't surprised when he saw Boston Bill's shape creep out from the complete blackness and take shape against the rear opening. Goodnight laid his gun against the shape and he held it there to catch a good aim.

But he did a thing that he had not intended doing. Just before he fired he dropped the gun's muzzle slightly and sent two bullets low at Bill. One of them struck. Bill gave out a heavy grunt and his shadow weaved and collapsed on the ground. He heard Bill's breath quicken and draw deeper.

"You're hit?" said Goodnight.

"Yes."

"Throw away your gun. Throw it this way."

**BILL** was out of sight on the ground. He was sighing, he seemed to be speaking to himself. The better part of a minute passed before Goodnight heard the gun drop on the ground. He stepped into the middle of the runway, moving forward. He saw Bill's shoulders rear up and plain caution made him spring aside, and so miss the last bullet Bill flung at him. It was one of those tricks.



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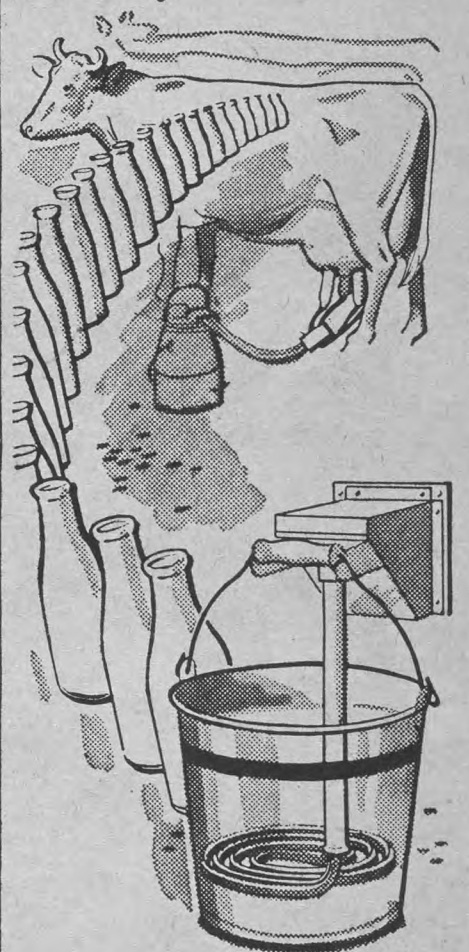
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He came at Bill, his revolver sagging on the target that lay as a dull lump directly before him on the ground. He said: "You played that one too close, Bill."

"You broke my leg," said Bill, grinding his words between his teeth. "I'm in bad shape. Light a match. You hit me in the knee. You've crippled me. Light a match."

"No use botherin'."

"You wouldn't do it," Bill said. "I'm through. You wouldn't shoot now."

"Think of Niles Brand," prompted Goodnight.

There was a part of a crowd on the street. He heard men's voices out there. He heard a woman's voice, sounding like Virginia's. Bill heard it too. Bill said to him in a more confident voice: "No, you wouldn't." He called out in a suddenly anxious, high tone: "Virginia—come here."

Goodnight swung back through the stable. The girl passed him in the darkness, walking rapidly, and men came into the stable after her. When he got to the sidewalk, he saw Syd there. Syd said: "A bad job of it?"

"I suppose so," said Goodnight.

"Poor light for shootin'."

"Yes," said Goodnight. He moved to the Texican and stood by its wall. He got to thinking about himself and he said: "Why'd I turn down a fair chance? Why did I fire low?" He was puzzled about it and searched for some kind of answer. Three men walked out of the stable, carrying Bill by him. Light struck from the saloon and ran over Bill's face. Bill had his eyes shut and his skin was pale and he held his fists together on his chest, his fingers tight. Virginia walked behind. She saw Goodnight and stared at him as she went by. She didn't stop, but the stare lingered with him. It was as though he were far away from her, a stranger looked at without recognition; and all this piled up on him until he crossed to the Trail and signaled for a drink. He stood with his elbows on the bar and he thought to himself: "Why did I fire low?"

He was disappointed in himself and the memory of Niles Brand reproached him for a job poorly done; and still the drive was out of him and he felt no more desire in the matter. He felt no triumph, no regret. He was like a long-abandoned water-barrel on the desert, empty, its staves warped, capable of holding nothing. That emptiness was the only feeling he had. "Why," he asked himself again, "did I fire low?"

**VIRGINIA** stood in the lobby, waiting.

They had taken Boston Bill to the back room at the hotel, that same back room in which Niles Brand had died. She heard him lift his voice to a desperate shout: "Get me off this bed!" She heard Syd say in his even, unsympathetic voice: "Be damned if we spend the time to lug you upstairs. What's the matter with this bed?"

"Get me out of this room."

"The bed sheets have been changed," said Syd. "They ain't the same ones Niles Brand was lyin' in. That's fair enough, ain't it?"

She watched Doc Teeter come in and go down the hall to the room. She waited, her face sharp and set. She heard Bill groaning steadily; she heard him cry out and curse as Teeter—whose fingers had grown rough from handling so many men like Bill—made his examination. She sighed a little, but not for Bill. She had a problem in her mind and it engaged all of her attention. Teeter came down the hall, the day's heat flushing his face. He said:

"I'm goin' to get some chloroform. I'll need you. You can go in there and wait. Settle him down."

"What's wrong, Doc?"

"Goodnight's bullet smashed his kneecap. I got to clean that out. Go in there. I've seen men take it a lot better than

he is. Tell him he ain't doin' his reputation any good."

**SHE** walked down the hall, into the room. Syd and two other men stood back, looking on with disinterest. They weren't enjoying Bill's pain; they were simply calloused to it, watching his weakness with some contempt. They expected better of him. Bill lay under a sheet, he had his hands clenched together on the edge of the sheet; he had torn it, and gripped another section, and torn that. He kept turning on his shoulders and his face was grey, and glistened damply. He stared at Virginia, the pupils of his eyes large and black.

She said to the other men: "Go on out," and waited while they went. She stood at the bed's side, looking down on Bill.

"Get me out of this room," he said.

"What's wrong with it?" she said.

He looked at her, and said nothing. It was Syd, just leaving, who turned to answer her. "This was the room Niles Brand was in," he said, and went on.

She watched Bill, knowing him better than she had before. Her face took on its cool expression and he saw it at once.

"What you thinking of now?" he said.

"What are you going to do?"

"Stay by you, Bill."

"I can see something. Some scheme. Something up your sleeve."

"No, Bill," she said. "I'm staying by you. You need me." He was, she realized, a far weaker man than she had guessed. He was tricky and he was dishonest. Even through his charm she had long ago discerned that fact. But what she now knew was that he lacked iron. He could be harnessed and he could be managed. As soon as she knew it, she understood how it would be. This man was hers.

Doc Teeter came in with a small can, and a little cone-shaped frame. He put these on a table; and presently the hotel man came in with a pan of water that had been boiling. Doc Teeter took off his coat and rolled up his sleeves; he opened the can and dripped some of the liquid on the gauze which lay over the cone frame. The first smell of chloroform brought a dead, dark expression to Bill's face.

"What are you going to do?"

"Get a bullet out of you."

"Let it stay."

"Sit on the edge of the bed, Virginia. You'll hold this over his face."

Bill squirmed. He stared at Virginia. "Be careful with that thing."

Teeter put the cone over Bill's face. Bill moved his face aside, whereupon Teeter cursed him, and added: "Don't make trouble."

Bill's voice came out from the cone, muffled and touched with panic. "Don't let him do anything drastic, Virginia. Look out for me, will you? There's nobody else I can trust..."

"I'll look out for you," she said, and watched him slowly fall asleep.

"This going to bother you?" asked Doc Teeter.

"No," said Virginia. "Nothing like that bothers me." She watched Teeter pull back the sheet, exposing Bill's smashed leg, from which the trouser leg had been cut. She said: "Will it cripple him?"

"He'll be lame," said Teeter. "But he don't have as much grit as I figured."

"He'll do," said Virginia.

Teeter lifted the cone and looked at Bill's eyes and face. He pinched Bill's skin. He gave Virginia an odd shrewd glance. "Your man?"

"Yes," said Virginia.

"You're takin' a chance. You know what he is."

"I can manage him," said Virginia. She watched Teeter set about his work with an unconcerned method. She watched the instrument drop into the bullet hole, but it made no effect on her. She was thinking: "He'll be satisfied with the bargain. I know him that well."



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He'll never love me very much, but neither will I love him. Not at all. And I can hold him down. I know it." She thought of Goodnight with a sharp start of longing. And then, to console herself, she thought: "I could never have made him do as I wished. But Bill will mind me. It is best that way."

GOODNIGHT having had one drink, moved out of the Trail, turned the corner and walked in idleness toward the foot of the street—toward that shed where he had met Niles days before. He went all the way to the shed and stopped there, looking into the farther shadows. He thought of Niles, and he thought of his sister, and those two people were far away from him, and he was alone and without anything to hold him. He turned and cruised back. When he got before Rosalia's house he saw her on the porch, standing beside the doorway's light. He came to her steps and he stopped and looked at her. He sat down on the steps, and rolled himself a cigarette. She was behind him.

"When does it rain in this country?"

"October."

He lighted the cigarette. He folded his hands together, looking out upon the shadows.

She said: "You're through now?"

"Yes."

"Where are you going?"

"Wish I knew."

She said: "Bob Carruth sent Slab down here to tell me you were in trouble. I might have helped you. But I didn't come. You went up there of your own will and you were old enough to take care of yourself."

"That's all right" he said.

"You could have stayed on Sun, couldn't you?"

"I could have stayed."

"But you wouldn't," she murmured. "It is too late. You need to ride, and be in trouble."

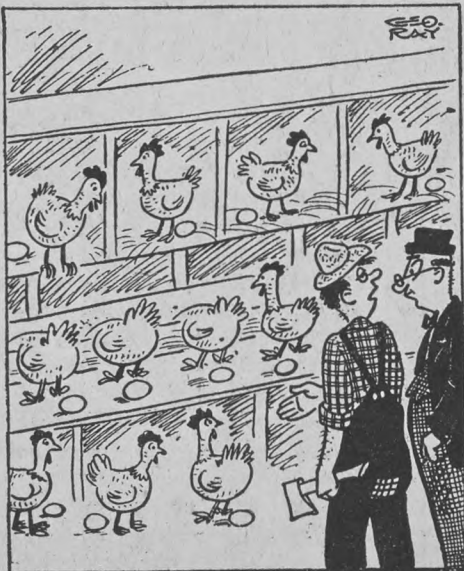
"No," he said, thinking it over. "I had a fair shot at Bill. And I was thinkin' of Niles when I levelled the gun on him. Still, before I fired I dropped the muzzle and shot him in the legs. I do not know why."

"Frank," she said.

He rose and turned to her. He saw her round, stilled face. He saw the shape of her shoulders and the shining of her black hair; and he remembered the great wave of warmth that had come from her lips, surrounding him with comfort and rushing its sweetness and its discontent through him. She said: "The wish to kill him wasn't in you."

"No," he said, "it wasn't. It must be . . ." He stopped to consider it and his thoughts took him back. He stood in front of her a full minute before he thought he had any kind of answer. "It must be that I remembered McSween. Nothing came out of that—nothing good. It didn't end anything. I don't regret it, but it didn't make the memory of my sister any better. I suppose a man learns these things pretty slow."

"You could have had Virginia, too," she said.



"They do that every time I try to cull the flock!"

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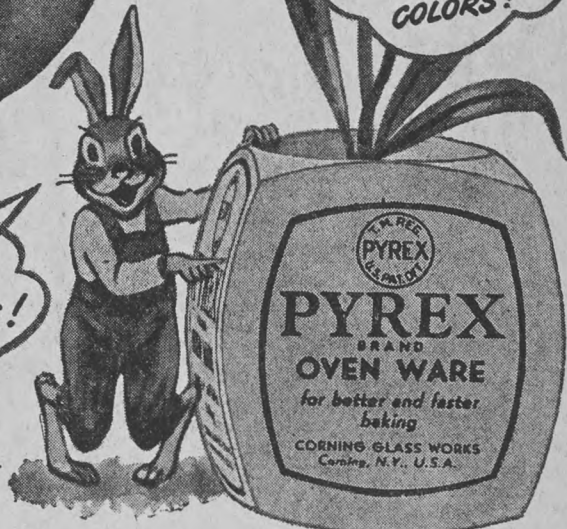
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He ignored the question. He said: "It is hell to reach the end of one road and not know where the next one goes."

"Why didn't you take her?" she asked. He threw away the cigarette. Her presence came strongly against him. He recalled her first kiss; and he recalled the last scene with Virginia. Then he knew why he had not taken Virginia. He said, "Because I kissed you first and there never was anything like it afterwards."

He saw her face lift a little. He said, "Why, of course. I am an ignorant man for not knowin' it before." He came forward and touched her with his arms. "Is it that way with you—as it is with me?"

She didn't answer him. She didn't move away at the pressure of his hands; she didn't move forward. He pulled her to him, looking down at her face as it came up. He saw her lips tremble a little, and wait—and it was like a great burst of heat when he kissed her and

felt again that rush of inexpressible things through him. He thought: "This is what has been troubling me," and he stepped back. She was smiling at him; and now she held him.

"Frank," she said, "it was hard not to come to you. But I could follow you no farther. I had to wait while you found your own wishes."

"It takes a long time and a lot of misery," he said, "for a man to come to what is right and to what is good."

"Now that you are here," she said, "I'll follow you wherever you wish. I told you that in the beginning."

He thought about that and he said: "These hills are good. I want to stay in them. I want to stay where I found you. I want..."

The way he said it struck her powerfully, so that she could not wait for all that he said. The pressure of her hands drew his head down and he met her lips again.

The End

## An Open Book Day

Our school held a "Book Fair" with good results to all concerned

By E. VIOLET HENDRY

NOW that winter is approaching many whose homes and interests lie in the rural districts of our various provinces are already beginning to think of the winter's activities. Our minds, fresh and rested by the summer recess, are quickening as we begin to plan our projects in connection with our many organizations and clubs. Invariably too, we reach out for new interests or a fresh stimulus.

Most communities have their fairs, exhibitions and horticultural shows. These have become an established part of rural life; their value has been proven not only from the scientific or practical point of view but also from the aesthetic—and the latter must not be overlooked. Can we do more to further the development of the cultural side of rural and town life? In many districts for example, libraries, sponsored by a Women's Institute, Homemakers or Farm Women's Club are being built up. Frequently, however, the library is handicapped for lack of books and too often lack of enthusiasm and appreciation. Can the school or community library become a vital centre of interest? How can it become the hub of a winter activity? Can it secure for itself an indisputable place in the community? Yes, but first of all it must declare itself. It must come out of its corner, stand open to the daylight, dress up, and show its wares.

Could your library become the focal point of this winter's activities? Could you hold say, in late winter or it might be in early spring, a Book Fair? Perhaps your school might experiment with the idea as mine did.

Last September I broached the subject of holding a Book Fair in our school. The staff were at first somewhat dubious about such an undertaking. "A Book Fair?" "Never heard of such a thing." "What is it?" Such were the questions. Then we began to discuss our own library, what it contained and to what extent it was used.

I HAD read of Book Fairs in the United States. I had visions, too, of what our Book Fair should be like. It would mean work, yes. But knowing the possibilities of our staff, I had confidence in the success of the venture. Ideas took shape rapidly; committees set to work. We decided (modestly) to call our project an "Open Book Day." That sounded less ambitious than "Book Fair" and at the same time expressed the idea behind the undertaking.

All classes from the Grade IX's to the tiny tots, took part. Originality was the keynote. A beautiful art project undertaken by the seniors grew out of the study of the Greek period. A junior class was specially interested in the progress of writing from the earliest

ages to modern times and prepared a fine set of murals depicting this. The little people of a Grade II room presented a group of Living Pictures—representations of famous pictures. The teacher directing this fashioned costumes from remnants, crepe paper and anything she could beg or borrow from parents or friends. Travel, history, music, health lessons, animal and fairy tales—all found a place in the exhibit.

Such surprises there were too! Hobby groups were formed and busy workers spent evenings making and dressing dolls. One morning I found Heidi sitting on my desk. Later came Queen Elizabeth in rich black velvet and Koodlooktu in his fur suit (from The Snow Baby by Peary) to mention only a few. Occasionally a car would drive up to school and out of it would emerge two or three boys carrying anything from an Indian village to Lassie's Home or Treasure Island. One never knew what to expect. But in every case the book was the centre of the project. This was accomplished in a city school but the idea is adaptable and could be carried out in any size of school or community. One idea suggests another; in fact our difficulty was to know which suggestions to accept and which to reject—or rather to save for another time.

Responsibility for the erection of stands and easels on which to mount the displays was placed on the manual training teacher and his boys. Whatever should we have done without them? The Home Economics department undertook as its share to provide tea for the visitors.

THE library looked its gayest. Here were exhibits of books: "British War-time Books" (a delightful collection lent by the "Books Across the Sea" Society); "Books of Pioneer Days" (treasures lent by friends, parents and the provincial and public libraries); text books dating back over one hundred years, lay alongside of 1945 primers.

We had planned to hold the fair—for in spite of ourselves it grew into that—for two days, but requests came from so many quarters to keep it open longer that we simply had to do so—for three more days. During that time many teachers brought their classes to view it.

Books came into their own during these busy months of preparation. Familiar books were much in demand, the less familiar became better known—thanks to the guidance of teachers. Shelves were usually half empty; impatience was often shown when a certain book was not there. It simply had to be found. The library was at last fulfilling its purpose; the Open Book had become a reality.

May we look forward to the day when the Book Fair will be an accepted fact in not only isolated schools but in every village, town and city school.

## On Reading

"Reading like all other work has its own rules. The first: that it is more important to know several subjects and authors well, than many superficially. The beauties of a given book rarely appear to best advantage at first reading. In one's youth it is good to make numerous acquaintances in the world of books just as one goes into the world to make friends. But once having found these friends, cling to them throughout life. To become an intimate of Montaigne, de Saint-Simon or Proust alone suffices to enrich existence. The second rule is to assign an important place in your reading to the classics... Homer, Tacitus and Shakespeare are worthy of their glory. The third principle: choose your fare with care. We ought to learn to know the authors that are 'our authors.'"

"Surround your reading with an atmosphere of composure and respect such as exists at a good concert."—Audre Maurois, in *The Art of Work*.

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# The Countrywoman

"The true university is a collection of books."

—CARLYLE.

## Brandon points the way for regional rural library service in Manitoba

By AMY J. ROE

THE germ of a good regional library service for rural people is to be found at Brandon, at the present moment. Brandon has always been proud of its many attractions for farm people as evidenced by its annual "Provincial Exhibition," its Winter Fair and many conventions of agriculturists. Farm people from the surrounding areas consider Brandon "their city" to a remarkable degree. Any attempt to draw a dividing line between "farm" and "city" people in that centre would wash out like a chalk line in a heavy downpour.

Other Manitoba people who love books, and would like to have them available for themselves and their families, should keep their eyes and their interest fixed on Brandon. Its citizens sought earnestly for an idea for some suitable way of establishing a memorial to those of its men who gave their lives in World War II. It was decided that that memorial would take the form of a public library. Brandon's present and oncoming generations of citizens will thus be enabled to learn from great and present-day writers and be better fitted to take their place in a world which is recognized as being as never before a "battle-ground of ideas." Impetus in that direction was given when a fine bank building was presented to the city by the Bank of Montreal. So Brandon people went to the polls in December, 1944, and voted to tax themselves for the support of a public library. Further gifts from those who are interested and who wish to support the idea may be expected and will be turned to good purpose.

A fine building, stacks of books and money do not of themselves make a library which will be a force in the community. The vital force that makes it live comes in the people who supervise and manage it. So very early Brandon Public Library secured the services of Mr. Bruce Carrick as librarian and his assistant Miss Roberta Wilson, both of whom have degrees in library work and both of whom have had valuable experience in regional library work in the Fraser Valley area, British Columbia, which was the pioneer effort in Canada in that field of activity. A Public Library Board consisting of seven outstanding citizens, five men and two women, was appointed by the City Council to direct and supervise the work. On the basis of the city's present assessment the Library will have around \$8,000 revenue yearly, which works out at less than 50 cents per capita.

IT is realized from the start that that sum is not sufficient to pay salaries of competent staff; that the minimum basis for support should be from 60 to 75 cents per capita. In fact the American Library Association say that \$1.00 per capita tax is the minimum for proper support for library service. The first year's revenue was largely used in renovating the building, putting in new floor, new roof and a heating system. The Brandon War Memorial Public Library opened the first week of September this year with over 5,300 books on its

shelves but its Board and staff want many, many more books.

School children and students will have free use of books. There is a small fee charged for family registration. Plans are underway to have the basement of the building accommodate the children's library and there will be access to it directly from the street. The juvenile section of the library has already received gifts of money from supporting organizations. The Canadian Federation of University Women's Clubs, at their meeting this year in Winnipeg voted a grant of \$300 to Brandon's library, renewable for three successive years. It is earmarked for children's books.

Situated as it is, Brandon has within an easy radius many thriving towns and villages in central and western Manitoba. It is surrounded by good farming areas. The people of both of these would undoubtedly desire and appreciate good library service. The librarian or his assistant could render valuable service in setting up and directing adjacent small libraries, in possibly selecting and arranging small "exchange deposit libraries" for nearby rural schools, in counselling on lists of books to be bought for libraries managed by clubs or organizations in surrounding small centres. The members of Brandon library staff could give talks and show the moving picture of the Fraser Valley Union Library project and so help stir up interest in having more and better libraries. It is quite likely that much of that activity will be carried on as people become informed of what Brandon is doing and as the demand for speakers on the subject grows.

But the catch is that there is no legislation on the statute books of Manitoba which would permit two or more municipalities to get together

and tax their citizens in order to finance a joint-library scheme, or to partake in a joint program of small school and community libraries. There is no way, at present, in which the province of Manitoba may assist with grants or appoint someone to supervise libraries, even if the demand arose.

MANITOBA, among the provinces of Canada, is a sad laggard in respect to permissive legislation for library services. In the whole Dominion the prairie region is the most backward in this work and of the three prairie provinces, Manitoba is the worst. In the whole of Canada only five per cent of the rural population is served by libraries. One hesitates to think of what a small portion it must have shrunk to in Manitoba! Its people are not keeping abreast with good modern development in library service.

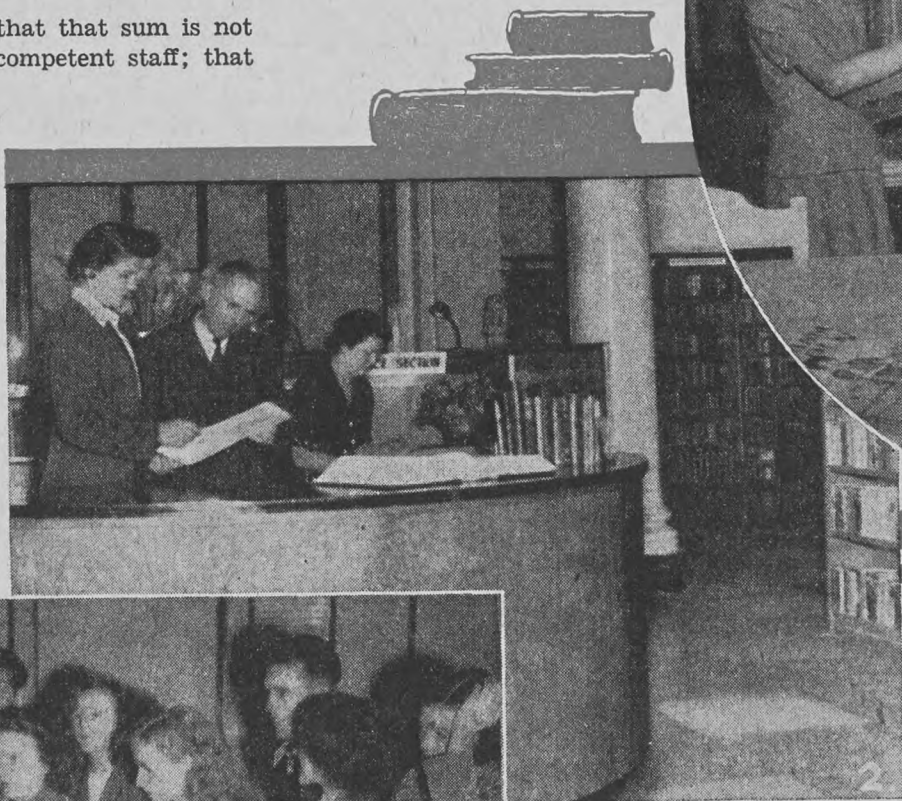
Larger-area units for school administrative purposes and for public health and welfare services are now used successfully and bring modern services into thinly settled areas, which could not singly secure these advantages for themselves. Spread over a large area and assisted by grants from the provincial government they afford all the people in a district equal opportunities.

Regional library work is the latest development of library services in Canada. It is most complete in Ontario and British Columbia, where there is central direction from government source for the encouragement of library development. All of Prince Edward Island and B.C. are so organized. Certain counties in Ontario and eastern townships of Quebec have

been experimenting in an informal co-operative library service. Nova Scotia has yet no established system, but its plan delayed on account of the war is very progressive. Development of regional library service is the aim of Alberta and Saskatchewan. By legislation, assented to in April, 1946, Saskatchewan approved in principle of regional libraries throughout rural areas. That does not mean that the government will establish libraries, rather it means that they will come when the people in the rural areas become convinced of their need of such service and their ability to support them. Alberta has recently appointed a Library Board.

Groups of people in Manitoba have been conscious of the need in their province of good libraries. But as yet their influence has not been widespread. Possibly the effort has been too largely confined to the city of Winnipeg and lacks the support of even the suburban councils to say nothing of rural governing bodies. The Manitoba Library Association has prepared a proposal for an act to provide for the establishment and maintenance of public libraries. The proposed act indicates that there would be a provincial Library Commission, which would be composed of leading citizens, who would serve without remuneration; a director and staff paid by the government of Manitoba. Municipalities could establish libraries by a municipal library board composed of representatives of all local government units participating in regional library service. The Library Commission would be empowered to administer any

Turn to page 63



Interior views of Brandon War Memorial Public Library. Note attractive central desk, a Brandon-made feature. 1. The Boys' and Girls' Department is of great interest. 2. Miss Wilson and Bruce Carrick, Librarian, consult on new business. 3. Teen-agers flock for books when library opened.



# An "OLD FASHIONED FAMILY" Bazaar

Try adding a novel touch to the annual winter bazaar and arouse new interest in the community . . . By Marion R. McKee

**N**OW is the season for church, club, or community bazaars. Women's groups and organizations are busy thinking of novel ideas and decorations to make this annual event as outstanding as possible. Time and much thought is being spent in the preparation of the goods to be sold. Since there is much the same line of articles sold year after year, the way they are presented will be the selling point. For fun and variety in the annual bazaar, a little different theme in decoration will go a long way.

Why not have an "Old Fashioned Family" bazaar and work the decorations around a booth for each member of the family? Naturally the articles for sale in each booth will be up-to-date, but the people in charge will look as if they dated back to the "Gay Nineties."

Attics and cellars should be thoroughly searched for old family portraits and pictures, the older the better. Wedding photographs where father is sitting and mother is standing beside him are ideal. Large pictures of set-faced old fashioned people are perfect for decoration. If an artistic person lives in your community have him or her draw a few large sketches of men with sideburns and women in pompadours. These would be just the thing for wall decorations. Scattered among the grown-up pictures are the younger members of the family; little girls in pantaloons and curls, and little boys in stiff Eton suits. Cardboard frames, either painted or covered with colored paper, set these pictures off.

Each booth would be for one member of the family. The number of booths will depend on the size of the room, and upon the number of articles for sale, so new family members could be added if more booths were needed, or some removed if space does not permit.

"Mother's Booth" will sell household linens, towels, handkerchiefs, laundry bags, potholders, and other items that would fit into the theme. Here is where the attendants, all girls, can dress to their hearts' content. Big wide skirts should be worn, made from crepe paper, a dyed sheet, or some old dress. A bustle on the costume would certainly add to the picturesque effect. Hair built up to a high pompadour with the use of many "rats" will complete the picture. Mother's portrait will adorn the outside of the booth, and a large printed sign labelling her booth.

"Big Sister's Booth" will take charge of selling lingerie, powder boxes, and other cosmetic accessories. Costumes appropriate to an old fashioned belle should be worn in keeping with the picture on the booth.

**N**ECKTIES, suspenders, hand knit socks and other masculine wares will be under the control of "Big Brother's Booth." Dressed along the old fashioned lines of Father's booth, our gay nineties dandies will take charge of the sales. A boutonniere of either real or artificial flowers is a "must" to the costume.

"Little Sister's Booth" will reflect her childlike desire for toys, trinkets, and other items dear to the youthful heart. Pantaloons and a frilly dress will make her costume. Little sister could take over the charge of the light refreshments along with the aid of an older girl.

The "Grab" or "Fish Pond" sale, that is so essential to the success of any bazaar, will be under the delighted control of the "Little Brother's Booth." Here small or large surprise packages can be sold for a quarter or dime depending on the value. The small boys of the community will delight in dressing up for this occasion, and their booth will be high on the popularity list.

Every bazaar has a "Baby's Booth" or "Storkland," and here are sold clothes, blankets, rattles, and other infant needs. The attendants, dressed as old fashioned nursemaids will be a tremendous success.



"Grandma's Booth" will be in charge of all sewing equipment such as pin cushions, sewing kits and baskets, pin and needle containers, etc., shopping and knitting bags, aprons, and knitted goods, and other appropriate things. An old spinning wheel, should one be available, set outside the booth will add the desired old fashioned touch. Girls with powdered hair and old fashioned dresses will sell the articles.

"Grandpa's Booth" will take over the sale of second hand and new books, garden tools, carpenter's equipment, bulbs, seeds, and potted plants. Grandpa could also take charge of the "White Elephant" sale. Who hasn't, at some time or other, been given a gift for which they have absolutely no use, but would be just the thing for another household? Donate these unwanted articles to this booth, and they will turn out a real moneymaker. Have a picture of a white elephant in the background, and perhaps a few toy elephants in front to label the sale. The attendants should carry canes and have white moustaches and hair to fit in with the old fashioned theme.

"Cook's Booth" or "Auntie's Booth" will be a delight to the eye and the appetite. Home cooked foods, all looking their tastiest, will be on display to appeal to everyone. The booth could be decorated like an old fashioned kitchen, and the attendants dressed to go with the atmosphere. Recipes that have been tried and found true, could be sold for a small charge, and in this way the recipe for Mrs. Jones' delicious pudding may sell like hotcakes.

**W**HETHER the bazaar is an afternoon or evening affair, a few games of chance and entertainment are most desirable. A dart board placed in a

corner will be a drawing card. Prices for the game will depend on the skill of the player, and the closer the dart to the bull's-eye the cheaper the game, a bull's-eye rewarding the lucky player with a free game, and an inexpensive gift. Pinning the tail on the donkey is an old game, but still popular. Groups of four could play it, and the one pinning the tail nearest to where it should go, wins a free game, while everyone else should pay a small fee.

Fortune telling is a big drawing card, and a booth decorated to suit an old fashioned mystic will be one of the most popular entertainments. Some lady or gentleman in the community blessed with some experience or only a wide imagination should be persuaded to take over this important job. The effect is better if the fortune teller is so disguised

that he or she cannot be recognized. A costume along with dim mysterious lighting will help the mystic to remain unknown.

**A**N entertainment committee should be responsible for a simple short program. What could be more appropriate to this theme of days gone by than an old barber's quartette? Four men with good voices, dressed in old fashioned clothes, and with the ability to harmonize, will rate many an encore. To carry on the amusing trend of the program, a group could put on a pantomime or play of the old villain and heroine theme, with the hero dashing in at the end for the rescue. The costume for this type of thing is well known, and of course the villain will wear a moustache which he will stroke leeringly. Have someone come out on the stage holding up cards every now and then, with the words "applause" and "laughter," etc., written on them, as they did in the old days.

Some mothers with small children are unable to attend local bazaars, even though they would like to. At one bazaar there was a day nursery where the children were entertained and taken care of while the mother enjoyed her afternoon in a carefree way, knowing that all was well with her infant. Young girls from C.G.I.T. groups or girls' clubs volunteered to take turns looking after the children. It might be added that in this way the attendance was greatly increased and the idea was a tremendous success.

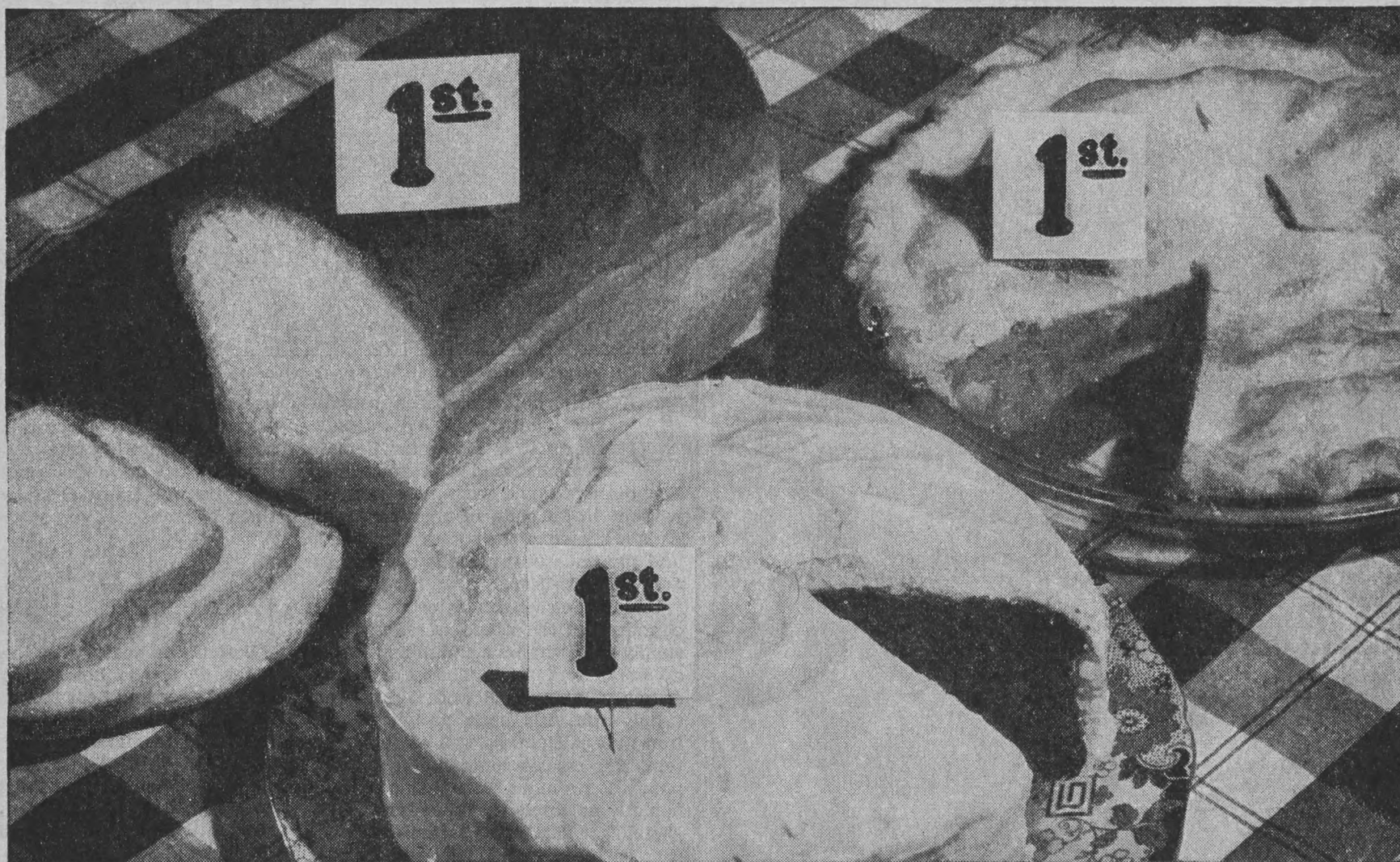
The organization of a successful bazaar may take weeks of the most careful planning and the tireless work of the convener or leader and her committees and helpers. The leader of the

Turn to page 62





# 4 OUT OF 5 PRIZE WINNERS USE Robin Hood Flour



Look at this amazing 3-year record\* made in Home-baking Contests at Agricultural Fairs all across Canada!

Of 10,617 First Prizes awarded . . . 8,850 were won by women using Robin Hood Flour.

Of 10,617 Second Prizes awarded . . . 8,198 were won by women using Robin Hood Flour.

The judges in these contests were independent, *impartial*. They are experts who know what to look for in prize-winning bread, cakes and pastry.

And home-bakers using Robin Hood won more than *four times as many First Prizes* as were won by women using all

*other flours!* There's never been a record anything like it.

Naturally *you* will want to use the flour that's the choice of 4 out of 5 prize winners . . . so for *better baking* always keep a good supply of Robin Hood on hand.

\*Records of proof are available for inspection.



## Says "... it's Robin Hood every time"

Mrs. A. J. Gunning of Pictou Landing, N.S., wife of a railroad man and mother of five children, has used Robin Hood Flour for over 24 years and bakes all her own cakes, bread and pastry.

Mrs. Gunning, proud of her ability to keep her hungry family happy with her baking, says "Robin Hood is the ideal all-purpose flour and I would not use anything else."

"My bread is very easy to mix and the flour is the same with every baking. I'm sure that's why my baking results are always so dependable."

"The texture is always fine and my bread and rolls are snow white. I have never had a single failure in my 24 years of baking with Robin Hood, and for the lightest, flakiest cakes and pastry, it's Robin Hood every time."

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(TRADE MARK)

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# Sweet and Special PARTY TREAT



## MAGIC'S Chocolate Cookie Dips are tender, delicious

● Flavor-rich temptations for autumn celebrations—Magic's different and delicious Chocolate Dips are a cookie lover's dream come true!

But be sure to use Magic for the "good-to-eat" flavor, the "good-to-look-at" texture that make the menfolk ask for more. Canada's leading cookery experts recommend it for finer results in all baked dishes. Get Magic today.

### CHOCOLATE COOKIE DIPS

$\frac{1}{2}$  cup shortening       $1\frac{1}{4}$  cups sifted all purpose flour  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar               $\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoon salt  
1 egg                       $1\frac{1}{2}$  teaspoons Magic Baking Powder  
2 tablespoons grated orange rind  
2 teaspoons orange juice

Cream shortening and sugar. Add egg; beat. Add orange rind and juice. Sift flour, salt, baking powder; add. Mix. Chill. Roll dough thin; cut according to directions below. Bake in  $375^{\circ}\text{F.}$ , oven, 10 min.

**Crescent Cookies:** Follow above recipe, cut with crescent cutter. Bake. Spread with melted sweet chocolate, sprinkle with finely chopped walnut meats.

**Filled Cookies:** Follow above recipe, cut with round cutter. Cut smaller round from center of  $\frac{1}{2}$  the rounds. Bake. Spread plain round with melted sweet chocolate; top with doughnut round.

**Coconut Sticks:** Follow above recipe, cut in strips  $3''$  by  $\frac{3}{4}''$ . Brush with milk; sprinkle with coconut. Bake. Dip ends in melted sweet chocolate.

**Pecan Squares:** Follow above recipe, cut dough in  $2''$  squares with pastry wheel. Place  $\frac{1}{2}$  pecan meat in center of each. Bake. Dip corners in melted sweet chocolate.



## Serve More Potatoes

Let this useful vegetable help you save wheat products  
By RUTH MERRIDITH



A tasty potato crust makes a perfect topping for a meat and vegetable pie.

LIKE an old friend the common white potato needs no introduction, as it is a regular item on our menus, and a great favorite. Few dinners would seem quite complete without it. In spite of this familiarity little is known of the potato's true value, and the important place it takes in our everyday nutrition.

Under their brown exterior potatoes contain a rich source of energy and supply more vitamins and minerals than do bread and flour. They are a good source of vitamin B and C, and they supply minerals such as phosphorus, iron and calcium, as well as some protein. The calorie content of a medium potato is no more than that of a large banana or apple, so therefore is not eligible for the term "fattening" which it is so often called. The rich gravies, sauces and butter put on the potato add up the calories.

In the present day shortages of wheat and wheat products, homemakers should strive to use the potato to replace part of the bread and cereal in the diet, so more wheat will be available for shipment to the famine areas. Potatoes may be used in making pancakes, muffins, puddings and other recipes calling for wheat flour. Potato scones could take the place of rolls at lunch. In place of toast let a mound of white fluffy potatoes hold the morning poached egg, or the creamed fish or meat at supper time. The next time a chicken is to be stuffed let mashed potatoes replace half or all of the bread in the recipe.

Cooking potatoes in their jackets will save food values such as vitamin C and B, and the minerals which lie close to the skin. When potatoes have been baked, boiled, or steamed in their skins, prick them after they are done so the steam will escape and the potato will not become soggy or moist. If a recipe calls for raw potatoes pare them as thinly as possible to save most of the food value.

Because of its bland flavor the potato can be served day after day without becoming tiresome. However, it is wise to serve it in different ways to avoid too much monotony, and to add extra interest. The potato is one of the most versatile vegetables and may appear in many forms and combined with many foods.

### Potato Pancakes

2 c. grated raw potatoes      2 T. flour  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  c. milk                      Salt  
1 egg                          Pepper  
1 T. chopped onion

Put the grated potatoes immediately in the milk to help keep them from turning dark. Drain the milk from the potatoes. Add the well-beaten egg to the potatoes, then the flour, and just enough of the milk that was drained off to make

a stiff batter. Season the batter with salt, pepper, and chopped onion. Drop by large spoonfuls into a well-greased frying pan. Cook the pancakes until they are well browned and crisp. Serve them at once.

### Potato Rolls

1 yeast cake                       $\frac{1}{4}$  c. sugar  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  c. lukewarm water               $\frac{1}{2}$  c. melted fat  
1 c. mashed potatoes              1 tsp. salt  
1 c. hot potato water              Bread flour  
2 eggs

Soften the yeast with the lukewarm water. Pour the hot potato water on the potatoes and beat the mixture well. When lukewarm, add the yeast mixture. Add flour to make a batter and let it rise until it is light. Then add the slightly beaten eggs, sugar, melted fat, and flour to make a soft dough. Let this rise until it doubles in bulk. Shape it into rolls and put in pans. Let the rolls rise until they double in bulk. Bake the rolls in a hot oven, from 400 to 500 degrees Fahr., from 15 to 20 minutes.

### Potato and Corn Chowder

3 strips of side bacon, chopped      3 T. butter  
1 small onion, chopped      2 T. flour  
2 c. diced raw potatoes      3 c. milk  
2 c. boiling water              2 c. grated carrot  
   2 c. canned corn  
   Salt and pepper

Cook bacon and onion together in frying pan. Boil potatoes until tender but not broken. Melt butter in saucepan, blend in flour, add milk, and cook till slightly thickened. Then add potatoes and water in which they were cooked, bacon and onion, carrot and corn. Season with salt and pepper. Heat thoroughly. Serves six.

### Potato and Onion Puff

Cook equal quantities of potato and onions together. Mash, add milk and beat till fluffy. Season with salt and pepper. Pile in a greased casserole. Bake in a moderate oven, 475 degrees Fahr. until puffed up. May be topped with grated cheese or paprika. Makes an excellent topping on meat pies or vegetable scallops.

### Potato Scones

1 c. flour                           $\frac{1}{2}$  c. milk  
1 c. mashed potatoes              4 tsp. baking powder  
2 T. fat

Sift the dry ingredients. Add potatoes. Work fat in lightly. Add milk gradually to make a soft dough. Turn on floured board. Pat out to half-inch thickness. Cut with a biscuit cutter. Bake in a hot oven 15 minutes at 400 degrees Fahr.

### Potato Crust for Meat and Vegetable Pies

1 c. hot mashed potatoes      1 egg, beaten  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. salt                      2 T. melted fat  
1 tsp. baking powder              Flour (enough to make a soft dough)

Combine the ingredients in the order given. Roll the mixture to about one-eighth inch thickness on a well floured board.



# FOR HOT AND HEARTY SCHOOL LUNCHES



## HEINZ Condensed SOUPS

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## Use Buttermilk

This by-product of butter-making contains valuable nutrients

**"D**RINK buttermilk and live to be a hundred" is an old saying, and although we know this is not a guarantee, the value of buttermilk in the diet is well known.

Buttermilk has about the same food value as skim milk, containing such important ingredients as protein, milk sugar, minerals and vitamins. Easily digested, economical, and nutritious, it earns an important place in home cookery. Usually thought of as a beverage, buttermilk may replace sweet milk as an ingredient in many recipes.

### Bran Buttermilk Biscuits

$\frac{1}{2}$ c. bran cereal	1 tsp. baking powder
$\frac{1}{4}$ c. buttermilk	1 tsp. salt
$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. flour	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. soda
$\frac{1}{2}$ c. shortening	

Soak bran cereal in buttermilk. Sift flour, baking powder, salt and soda together. Cut in shortening until mixture is like coarse cornmeal. Add soaked bran cereal; stir until dough follows fork around bowl. Turn on floured board, knead lightly a few seconds; roll or pat to half-inch thickness and cut with floured cutter. Bake on a lightly greased pan in hot oven (450 degrees Fahr.) about 12 minutes. Yield is 12 biscuits.

### Buttermilk Scones

2 c. flour	$\frac{1}{2}$ c. raisins, if desired
3 T. butter	1 egg
$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. soda	Buttermilk to moisten (about $\frac{3}{4}$ c.)
$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt	
2 T. brown sugar	

Sift the dry ingredients. Cut in the butter evenly and mix in the raisins. Beat the egg and one-half cup of buttermilk. Stir into the dry ingredients with enough of the remaining buttermilk to make a soft dough. Divide in half and roll each piece of dough in circular shape about one-half inch thick. Cut in quarters, but do not separate the pieces. Bake in a hot oven about 15 minutes.

### Buttermilk Salad Dressing

$1\frac{1}{2}$ T. sugar	$\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. onion salt, if desired
1 T. mustard	$1\frac{1}{2}$ T. butter
$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt	1 c. buttermilk
Few grains cayenne	$\frac{1}{4}$ c. vinegar or lemon juice
$1\frac{1}{2}$ T. flour	2 eggs

Mix the dry ingredients. Add the slightly beaten eggs and buttermilk. Cook over boiling water until the mixture thickens, then add the butter and stir in the vinegar or lemon juice very slowly. If the dressing has a curdled appearance, it may be remedied by beating vigorously with a Dover egg beater. This dressing is delicious with vegetable and fish salads.

### Buttermilk Gingerbread

1 c. molasses	2 tsp. ginger
1 c. buttermilk	$\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. salt
$2\frac{1}{2}$ c. flour	4 T. melted butter
$1\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. soda	

Mix soda with buttermilk and molasses. Sift the dry ingredients and combine the two mixtures. Add the melted butter. Beat. Pour into a greased tin and bake in a moderate oven about 25 minutes.

### Buttermilk Beverage

1 c. buttermilk	Salt
1 egg	Sugar if desired

Beat the egg thoroughly. Add salt and buttermilk and beat till light and foamy.

### Buttermilk Custard

2 eggs	$\frac{1}{4}$ c. sugar
$1\frac{1}{2}$ c. buttermilk	2 tsp. cornstarch
3 tsp. lemon juice	
Grated rind of $\frac{1}{2}$ lemon	

Beat the yolks of the eggs until lemon colored, then beat in the sugar, a little at a time, and add the buttermilk, lemon and cornstarch. Pour into a baking dish and set in a pan of hot water. When set, cover with a meringue made of the whites of the two eggs and four tablespoons of sugar beaten till quite heavy and thick. When brown remove from the hot water and cool before serving.



# IT'S...

# LIGHT

The "Wear-Ever" 604 Pressure Cooker is easy to handle because it weighs little more than three pounds.



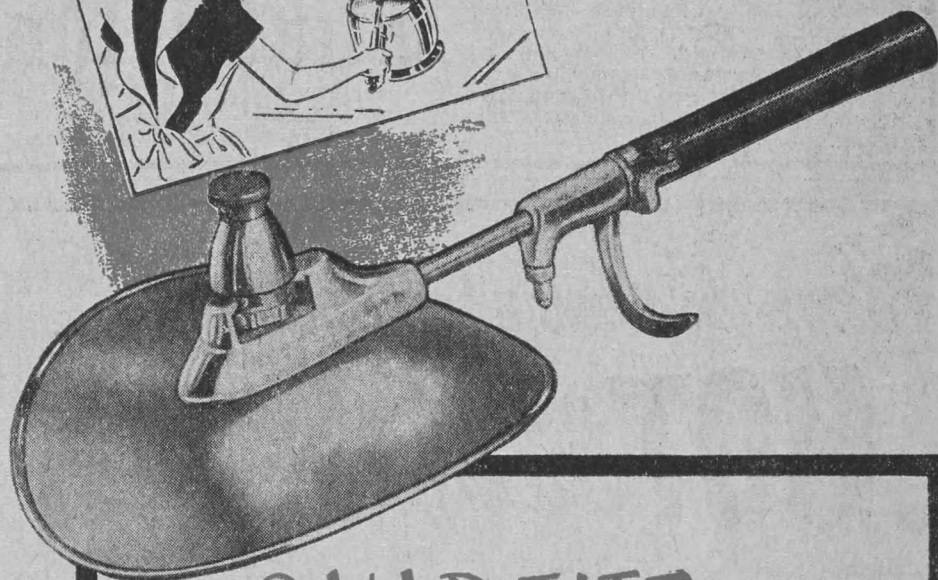
# SIMPLE

Insert patented "Snap-Tite" cover into pan, centre it, squeeze handles together and cover closes with a snap. Only one hand is needed.



# STRONG

Built to withstand cooking pressures and adequately safeguarded. Cover is not removable under pressure even with Lid Lock unfastened.



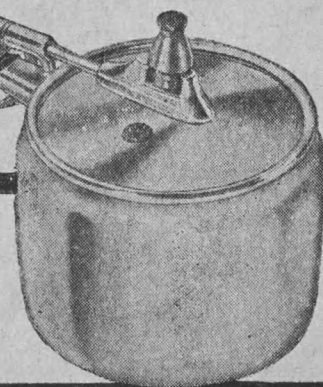
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exclusive with the

# "Wear-Ever" 604

## ALUMINUM Pressure COOKER

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*Serve this whole wheat cereal*

**HOT** *Without cooking!*

Place NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT in a strainer . . . pour boiling water over biscuits. Drain and serve with sugar and cream. No cooking needed! It's ready to enjoy — ready to help provide your family with the hearty nourishment needed for a morning's hard work. High-energy NABISCO SHREDDED WHEAT is made from 100% Canadian whole wheat with its beneficial bran and wheat germ. It's naturally nutritious. Serve it often!

Baked by  
**THE CANADIAN SHREDDED WHEAT  
COMPANY, LTD.**  
Niagara Falls, Canada



F146

## AN "OLD FASHIONED FAMILY" BAZAAR

Continued from page 58

bazaar should be chosen with great care for it is she on whom the full responsibility will fall. Her mind should be open to suggestions from her committee members, and she should be willing to try new things. The leader chosen should be a good organizer, have a pleasing personality, and possess a flair for the unusual. The committee should be chosen with equal thought. Women with novel ideas and the ability to co-operate are the type wanted. A helpful little tip that will aid in the advertising is to have as many as possible working on the organization and donations, as through these people their friends will hear of the bazaar and be eager to attend.

The time element enters the picture, and is of the greatest importance. It is natural to assume that a "Before Christmas" bazaar will sell more things than an "After Christmas" one. Not only is the time of the month important, but the week and the day of the week chosen. Find out through enquiries what day is least likely to compete with other local events and least crowded with household tasks, and choose the time of that day which will draw a good crowd.

### November

By HENRIETTA K. BUTLER

*"The wild November comes at last,  
Beneath a veil of rain,  
The night wind blows its folds aside,  
Her face is full of pain."*

—Stoddard.

*"Fear not November's challenge bold,  
We've books and friends  
And hearths that never can grow cold,  
These make amends."*

—Fraser.

IT is true that many dread the advent of November. Yes, the days are shorter, and the rain in some localities seems endless, while trees lose their last leaves; but after November comes December and Christmas.

November is the gloaming of the year,

the time when all nature thinks of rest, quietude and contemplation. After a long busy season of growth and creation, a period for repair and meditation is essential, and so we hail November.

"Blood-Month," the Anglo-Saxons called it, for they, in all probability stored by quantities of meat for winter, much as country folk today preserve vegetables, meat and fish to tide them over the stormy months. November was originally the ninth month of the early Romans, "Novem" being the Latin for nine.

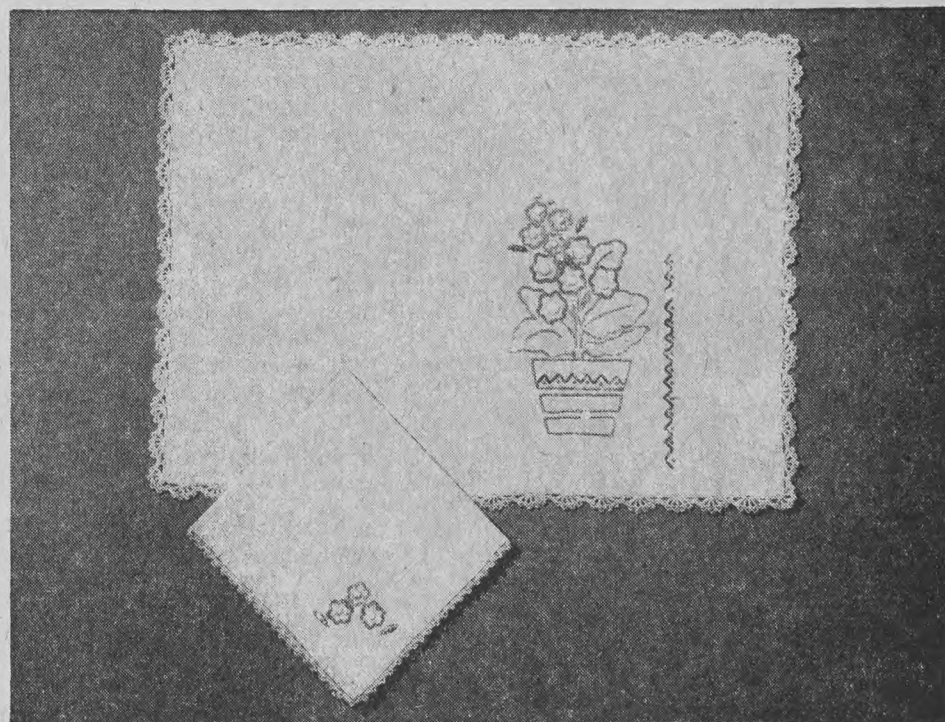
The glorious and dreamy days of Indian Summer come in early November, and then one enjoys long walks inhaling the sweetness of the open air, perfumed with the smell of the fallen leaves, which crackle and pop under foot. The last few nuts and apples drop off the trees, and all nature enters a hushed waiting period. In a little while trees and shrubbery may be transformed into ghostly apparitions. Beautiful, yes and blissful. The family hurries home as night falls earlier, bright fires liven the hearth, and popcorn or games are brought out. On the farm, harvesting is over and the year's work almost done.

Not only do human beings and plant life prepare for winter in November, but also various members of our four-footed and feathered friends, prompted by Divine guidance, follow a plan of repose or change. Many birds have already left or are still leaving on their annual migration to warmer regions. The cheery little chipmunk, his larder full of nuts and grain, retires into his underground burrow and sleeps the winter through. The muskrat, too, hibernates in a hole lined with leaves and grass under a mound or bank; his entrance is beneath the water and he prefers to remain active most of the short days. The insects, too, so busy during the warm sunny weather have gone into hiding, some dormant in the adult stage and others in chrysalis forms.

Many important birthdays are listed in November, among them we find; Oliver Goldsmith, writer and poet. His "Vicar of Wakefield" is well known. Anton Rubenstein, Russian pianist and composer. The beautiful "Melodie in F" and the oratorio, "Christus" are among

## Flowers-In-A-Pot Luncheon Set

By ANNE DEBELLE



Design No. 641.

Directions for the pretty crocheted lace which finishes this luncheon set are included with the directions for embroidery. The set is stamped on nice quality white linene and includes four place mats, one runner, and four serviettes. Motifs are worked in bright colors using only very simple stitches. The set is Design No. 641, price \$1.25, threads 30 cents. Extra serviettes are 10 cents each. Extra mats are 15 cents each. Address orders to The Country Guide, Needlework Department, Winnipeg, Man.



## This Home-Mixed Cough Relief Is Truly Surprising

**So Easy. No Cooking. Big Saving.**

You may not know it, but, in your own kitchen, you can easily prepare a really surprising relief for coughs due to colds. It's old-fashioned—your mother probably used it—but it is hard to beat.

First, make a syrup by stirring 2 cups granulated sugar and one cup of water a few moments, until dissolved. No cooking needed. No trouble at all. (Or you can use corn syrup or liquid honey, instead of sugar syrup.)

Then get 2½ ounces of Pinex from any druggist. This is a special compound of proven ingredients, in concentrated form, well known for quick action in throat and bronchial irritations.

Put the Pinex into a 16 ounce bottle, and fill up with your syrup. This makes sixteen ounces of really splendid cough syrup, and you get about four times as much for your money. It never spoils, and children love its pleasant taste.

And for quick relief, it's splendid. It loosens the phlegm, soothes the irritated membranes, eases the soreness, makes breathing easy, and lets you get restful sleep. Just try it, and if not pleased, your money will be refunded.

his artistic productions. Sir Philip Sydney, beloved British courtier and soldier of Queen Elizabeth's day. The story of his handing a cup of water to a wounded comrade on the battlefield, saying, "Thy need is greater than mine," is an old one. Louisa M. Alcott, American story writer, best known as the author of "Little Women." John Philip Sousa, American composer and famous bandmaster. It was he who founded Sousa's band in 1892. Two of his very popular marches are, "Washington Post," and "Under the Double Eagle."

Andrew Carnegie, too, was born in November. He is known as a great philanthropist. He made endowments for international peace and higher education, but perhaps, the endowment which has been of the greatest good to the most people was his gift to libraries.

## THE COUNTRYWOMAN

*Continued from page 57*

gifts or grants authorized. This envisages some scheme of grants-in-aid which might be made by the province which would be in proportion to the sums raised by local taxation.

Such an act should be passed without delay. It is likely to come before the next session of the Manitoba legislature. It needs the strong support of citizens of Manitoba, particularly from those in rural areas, in addition to the full support, which it already has, of the Manitoba Library Association.

The need for such legislation and for adequate library services has been made known in several ways: by a submission to the Royal Commission on Adult Education by the Library Association; by a brief prepared by Bruce Carrick of the Brandon Public Library, which stated in a telling way the evidence of both the lack of such services in the province as well as the practical steps which might be taken; and by a memorandum prepared in 1946 by the Library Association entitled "Manitoba Needs Libraries." The arguments are stated, the people of Manitoba need to use them. Certainly the voice of rural people should be heard on this important matter. When a sufficient number of people ask, governments pay heed and take action.

## On Citizenship

*A plea for acceptance of responsibility*

By PEG DEEDER

RECENTLY it was suggested that discussions on current events be held on regular meeting nights of a certain local farm organization. It was voted down by a majority who decided they would rather play cards. Fortunately, this sort of feeling is not prevalent in all parts of Canada, because the voice of the people is making itself heard; but how much more powerful could that voice become if all of us accepted our full responsibility of citizenship.

During the war, when we fought for survival, we talked about the fine things to come when victory was won. We were to have better housing, full employment, social security. Our veterans were promised a square deal. The unity of the powers who defeated Fascism would be so strong as to prevent the desolation and heartbreak of another war. This was the second great war to end war.

Now, in the second year of peace, the emergency is still with us. We are no closer to a final settlement of our problems than we were at the height of battle. We even have added problems to solve, and time is a-wasting. We who gave our sons and our money and our strength for the ideals of Democracy

## When baby frets because of "Childhood Constipation"



... give gentle **Castoria!**



*"It's the laxative made especially for infants and children."*

WHEN your little "Sunny Jim" turns into a fretful, fussy cry-baby simply because of "Childhood Constipation" ... do the wise thing:

Give him Castoria. It's so gentle, yet it works thoroughly and effectively. It won't upset his sensitive digestive system.

Unlike adult laxatives — which may be too harsh — Castoria is specially made for children. It contains no harsh drugs, and will not cause griping or discomfort.

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**Get Castoria at your nearest drug or general store today.** Be sure to ask for the laxative made especially for children.



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TO KEEP SILVER **SPARKLING!**



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have failed to make democracy work. Is it with bitterness and a sense of failure that we must face the future, or is there something we can do about it?

Every citizen can do something about it. We can find out what is happening in our country and in the world. Armed with information, we can make up our minds. We can make our voices heard. We can meet with groups of friends and neighbors, people from the same church, the same organization, or better still, with people from the other church, the other organization, the other town. Together we can find the facts, discuss the issues, and then report our opinions to our representative. We can get things done in our own communities, in our towns, our country. We can make Canada heard all over the world.

Here are some of the important questions which should be discussed:

Will there be more bombs or won't there?

Does Canada need more people? Should we open our doors to refugees?

Do the people of Canada sanction bi-lateral trade agreements? To what may they lead?

Do we need a Canadian Bill of Rights? What should go into it?

Can we build houses better, faster, cheaper? What is the truth about the desperate housing situation?

What prevents us finding a basis for a workable understanding with the Soviet Union?

Can the Big Four come to terms on what to do with Germany?

Are strikes necessary? How can the public interest be protected in labor-management disputes?

Are we in full accord with the Anglo-American foreign policy in the Far East?

These are but a few of the vital topics of today upon which every Canadian citizen has a right and a duty to form an opinion, and make it heard. If he fails to do so he is failing in citizenship.

Blind intolerance and ignorance among the little peoples of the world allowed a handful of warmongers to lead us into two devastating world wars. We are being pulled toward the brink of a third war which may, in truth, be the "war to end wars" in that it could mean world annihilation. We can stop it only when we individually and collectively accept the full responsibility of world citizenship.

#### Nancy Coming Down The Stair

By RACHEL MACK WILSON

*Nancy coming down the stair  
Waiting at life's open door,  
Pure divine, and debonair  
Nancy not yet four.*

*Fairy flower and saint in one—  
Angel in an elf's disguise,  
Nancy standing in the sun  
Heaven in a blue surprise.*

*Bonnet set with tucks and lace  
Makes a halo for her face,  
Bouquets of ribbon at the wrist  
Bring a thought of amethyst.*

*Pure divine and debonair,  
Nancy coming down the stair.*

#### Makes Ironing Easier

Beeswax or paraffin, of course, makes the iron glide more smoothly. But too much is just as annoying as too little, and the wax should be handy to the ironing board so that the minute quantity needed can be applied easily. To always have the wax handy and apply just the right amount to the iron, in one end of the ironing board bore a few holes about one-half inch deep. Fill the holes with beeswax or paraffin and cover them with two thicknesses of muslin. Rubbing the hot iron over the muslin will bring up just enough wax to make the iron work smoothly.



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# Good Looks Without Cost

Some of the finest aids to natural loveliness may be had for the taking

By LORETTA MILLER

**N**OW is the time to get out for a brisk walk every day. Fall is in the air and the slight chill puts color in the cheeks and sparkle in the eyes. Tense nerves and taut muscles are loosened and relaxed, one becomes more alert, and physical weariness is replaced by a feeling of goodness and well being.

The woman who hustles around the farm, either indoors or out, all day, from the wee hours until the evening dishes are done, may not require a daily walk to encourage her night's slumber. But the one whose time is only partially occupied, and the girl who remains indoors most of the day, will do herself a kindness if she takes a two-mile hike each day.

In order to gain real benefit from any walk, it is well to dress for the occasion. Shoes with medium heels, and sturdy enough to give ample support to the feet, are of first importance. Loose clothing that permits the body to move freely, and arms unencumbered so that they can swing freely at the sides, will make the daily hike a pleasant beauty treatment.

If your skin is sensitive and usually appears dry or sensitive after exposure, it might be well to smooth a little oil or cream over your nose, chin and cheeks before starting out on your jaunt. Rub the cream or lotion into the skin so that its application isn't noticeable.

Then with arms swinging at the sides, and stepping along in lively rhythm, with shoulders up, abdomen in and chin tilted slightly upward, count 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2 as you walk. Walk in rhythm, and concentrate on the correct movements of the body, and its carriage, rather than the placing of the balls of the feet first on the sidewalk or road. Put your kerchief and whatever else you must carry in your pocket, rather than a purse, so that your arms will be left free to swing along at the sides of your body. Check up on your posture occasionally during your walk and remember to pull your abdomen in, to raise your chin and straighten your shoulders. Correct fast walking is much more important than just walking carelessly along. It trains the body to move gracefully and, being in proper alignment, every organ is in place and functioning normally.

## Feminine Figure Faults

The next time you are dressing or undressing, take a look into your mirror, trying to catch yourself by surprise. Notice how incorrect posture actually encourages extra, and certainly unwanted, pads at the sides of the hips. Then straighten your body and see how these unattractive fatty cushions vanish. Now slump again and look at your figure profile. Then straighten up, see how quickly a too ample tummy disappears. Next, pull up a chair, sit down, and by all means sit naturally. Are your shoulders humped over? Is your chin line unlovely? If so, pull yourself back in the chair and sit correctly. Notice how very quickly the shoulders appear more youthful and the underchin contour becomes more attractive. Correct posture at all times soon brings about a greatly improved figure. And once one remembers to hold the body beautifully, the daily walks will bring extra beauty dividends in making the body firm and its outline more attractive. Making or keeping the figure youthful requires concentration, time and real effort. But if your desire is really sincere, and you want to improve your appearance, you will find it well worth your time and effort. Getting the habit of walking,



A light film of cream before retiring to counteract drying effects of wind and cold, is used by Joan McCracken.

standing or sitting correctly is the first step toward an improved you . . . a lovelier body, clearer skin, brighter eyes and youthful alertness.

Sleep is the natural medium by which the mechanism of the body renews its energy, and it doesn't cost a thing. Although eight hours of sound sleep is generally the accepted amount necessary each day, there are some of you who will require either more or less. If you require more, you'll not be able to cheat very long without showing the effects. And the result: a slower moving body, dull eyes and even dull, lustreless hair, and skin.

It may take a little extra effort at night to wash your face, perhaps use a skin lotion, and to brush your hair. But it is exerting this little extra at night that sends one off to a night of sound sleep so that the morning finds the eyes bright, the skin refreshed and the hair obedient to your touch.

Sleep in a well ventilated room, with enough covers, and of light weight, to keep the body comfortably warm. If you have a habit of burying your head under the covers, by all means give up this childish practice at once, if you really want to get up feeling refreshed. It is during our sleeping hours that nature works to rid the body of impurities, throwing them off through the pores of the skin. And though this work goes on every minute of the day and night, it is while we sleep that nature exudes even greater quantities of toxins. When the head is buried under the covers, one simply breathes back into the system the toxins that are being exuded through the pores. When this happens, one awakens with a lazy, dull feeling, quite unprepared for the day's activities.

## Good Morning

Dashes of cool water over the face, and, sometimes warm water sponged over the eyes, will often serve as awakeners. However, for those of you whose eyes do not respond to this simple morning routine, an eye bathing lotion should be used. You can make a splendid eye bathing lotion by adding one (1) teaspoonful of boric acid crystals to one-half (½) pint of water which has been boiled. This lotion should be kept in a bottle, and well corked when not in use. Or, if you prefer, substitute plain cooking salt for the boric acid crystals. Either of these should be used with an eye cup. You can buy an eye cup for a few cents at any drugstore. Fill the eye-cup with the solution, place it over one eye, tilt the head back, then roll the eye so that it gets a good bath with the liquid. Repeat with the other eye. Use either of these eye-bathing lotions as often as you wish. You'll find them especially soothing after exposure to sun, wind, cold or dust.

Is your mirror  
*ashamed*  
of your skin?



## There's help for you in nurses' discovery for facial blemishes



Maybe you're doing the wrong thing for your skin troubles. Covering them up with cosmetics may make them worse. Instead, begin using NOXZEMA Skin Cream today!

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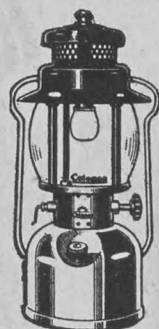
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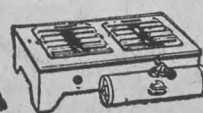


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## Gift Suggestions

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No. 2784—Striking beret, bag and scarf, ideal for a gift. Cut in head sizes 21, 22, and 23; gloves cut in size 7; bag measures 15 inches in length. See pattern for fabric requirements.

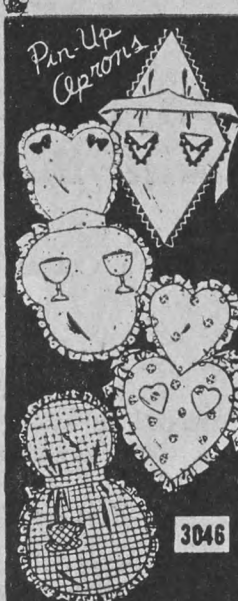
No. 2836—A well cut slip and pantie set, delightful as a gift or for yourself. Cut in sizes 14, 16, 18, and 20 years, 40, 42, 44, 46, and 48 inches bust. Size 36 requires 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  yards 39-inch fabric for slip; 1 yard 39-inch



fabric for panties. (Transfer pattern No. 11215).

No. 2936—A three-piece outfit ideal for a little girl. Cut in sizes 2, 4, 6, and 8 years. Size 4 requires 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  yards 54-inch fabric for jerkin and skirt; 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  yards 54-inch fabric for jerkin and bolero; 1 $\frac{1}{4}$  yards 35-inch fabric for blouse with collar or drawstring neckline.

Send 15 cents for Fall and Winter magazine which includes a complete sewing guide, illustrated in color, presenting many pages of charming pattern designs for all ages and occasions.



3320

3046

No. 3320—A happy gift for a small child in the form of the Three Bears. Cut in one size (14 inches). Each bear requires  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard 35-inch fabric;  $\frac{3}{4}$  yard 35-inch contrasting fabric. Clothes may be cut from scraps.

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Patterns 15¢ each.

Be sure to state correct size and number of pattern wanted.

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28  
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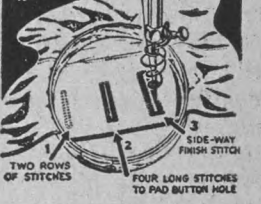
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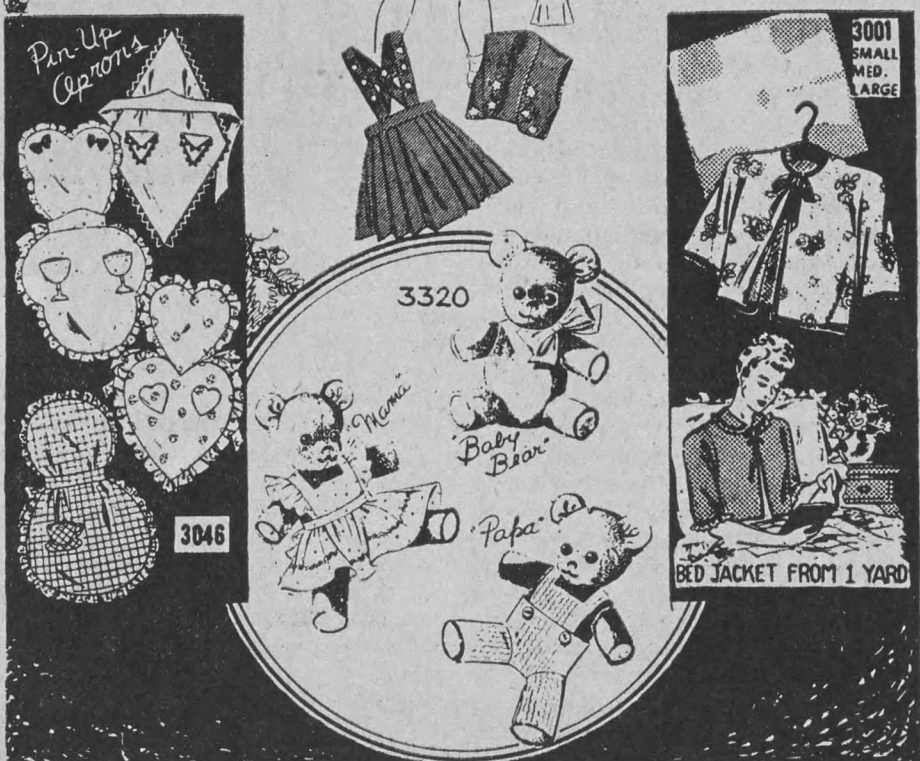
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# The Country Boy and Girl

## The Cat Who Sneezed

By MARY GRANNAN

THE cat didn't sneeze because he had a cold. He sneezed for a very different reason, and I'll tell you all about it, and I hope you want to know. It was like this.

It really began in the corner drugstore, where the cat lived. He lived there, because he was a police cat, and the man who kept the drugstore wanted a police cat to keep mice out of his store.

"Copper," he said to the cat, "I don't like mice around my place. It's your job to keep the place clear of them."

And Copper, who was a very proud cat, held his head high, as he answered haughtily, "No mice will ever get into your store, sir. I promise you that. Not a mouse, if I can help it."

But one got in, in spite of his promise. And that one was Willie Weepaws.

Now Willie had a very dear friend named Marcella, and this was Marcella's birthday. Willie knew just what Marcella wanted for her birthday because she had said to him last Wednesday, "Willie, if I could have what I most want in all this world for my birthday, do you know what it would be, Willie?"

Willie had said, "No Marcella! What would it be?"

"It would be pink powder for my nose, pink powder that smells like carnations," she answered.

Willie had laughed until the pickle-shelf on which Marcella lived shook with his merriment, and when he stopped laughing, he said, "But why, Marcella? Your nose doesn't need pink powder. I like it the way it is."

Marcella had pouted. "Well I don't, and besides Rita Runaway has pink nose powder, and Rita Runaway smells just like carnations, and all the mouse girls think it's wonderful because Rita has pink nose powder and smells like carnations, and do you know where Rita got the pink powder?"

Willie answered "No."

"Percy Patterfoot found it for her in the drugstore down at the corner, and I thought if Percy Patterfoot could get Rita pink powder in the drugstore . . . maybe . . . a . . . maybe you could . . . a . . ." And Marcella had stopped and looked at Willie with a most winning and coaxing smile.

Willie had gulped, and then he had answered. "But Marcella . . . maybe you didn't know it, but there's a police cat in the drugstore now and he's big and he has sharp claws . . . and he's new . . . and he doesn't let mice into the drugstore, and he wasn't there when Percy got the pink powder."

Marcella had pouted and said, "Well of course if you are afraid, don't go. But it does make me feel pretty sad to think that Rita has pink nose powder when I haven't. And besides, that cat can't be there all the time. Surely he goes out for lunch. But of course if you don't want to give me pink powder . . ."

Willie had said no more. But ever since last Wednesday he had been thinking about it, and he had made up his mind. And now it was Marcella's birthday. He was going to the drugstore. He waited and waited at the cellar window, thinking the police cat would come out for lunch. But there was no sign of him. At last Willie went in. He found his way easily enough, and it was not long before he smelled carnations. He followed the perfume and found himself on a shelf of powder boxes. Here was what Marcella longed for. He chose a pink box that he thought Marcella would like, and was just making his way toward the door again when

LOOK up to the stars these clear bright evenings! Do you remember that the Big Dipper was overhead in May? Where is it now? In line with the Big Dipper you can easily locate the group of four stars which form a big "W"—Cassiopeia is the name of this group. On the last Saturday of each month most newspapers publish a monthly star map which tells where and what are the evening stars. In this way you can soon get to know all the stars and their movements. Soon you will have all the members of the family joining in your star gazing.

It's not too soon to think about Christmas gifts and those of your own making are the very special ones. Here are some suggestions: A Self Soaping Sponge—Make it for any member of the family. Purchase a rubber sponge of rectangle shape, slit it part way through large enough to permit a small bar of soap to be placed inside. When the sponge is wet the soap lather comes to the outside surface.

Try a simple Jig Saw Puzzle by pasting a pleasing colored picture on light cardboard. On the back of the cardboard draw, then cut out medium sized pieces to make a "not too difficult" jig saw puzzle for small brother or sister.

A String Cutter is handy for Mother in the kitchen. Just nail a razor blade to a brightly painted piece of wood as shown in the sketch.

he heard a growl . . . "Stop where you are!"

It was the cat. He was coming toward Willie, and Willie did just what you would have done, he threw the box of powder. It opened and the police cat got the whole thing right on the nose. And he started to sneeze . . . and he sneezed and he sneezed and sneezed, and Willie ran for his life back to the pickle shelf. He smelled of carnations. Marcella came running to meet him . . . "Oh Willie . . . I smell it . . . I smell it. You got me the pink powder, for my nose."

"No . . . no," said Willie. "I got it for the cat's nose. Listen."

And she listened. And she heard the cat sneezing. "Oh Willie," she said. She knew what had happened. "You're so smart and I'm so stupid. If anything had happened to you Willie just because I wanted pink powder for my nose! Oh Willie!"

"But Marcella. I have nothing for your birthday," said Willie.

Marcella laughed. "I'll take the cat's sneezes," she said, as she slipped her paw into Willie's.

## What Do You Want To Be?

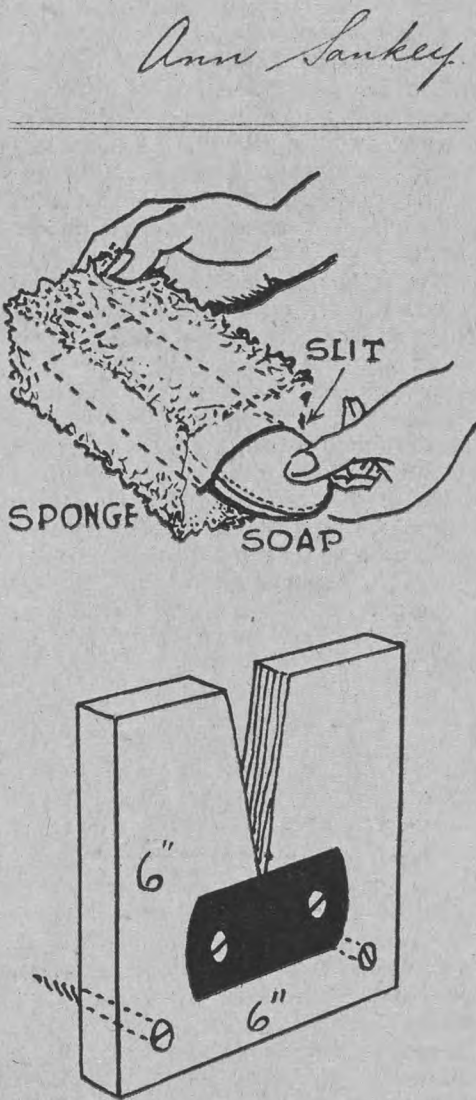
An Engineer?

(No. III in the Series)

A HUGE iron bridge spans a roaring river, a tunnel built under a river connects two cities, a sleek new automobile speeds down the road—these are the wonders of engineering. This profession offers the greatest number of fields to the young man looking for a career for there is not an industry that does not offer good opportunities to the graduate of an engineering school. The engineering profession is divided into five main branches—chemical, electrical, civil, mechanical, and mining engineering. Let us look into these various branches.

**Mechanical Engineering:** This field of engineering offers the greatest variety of opportunities. The required training is a four-year course at an engineering college where the student studies higher mathematics, chemistry and physics as well as construction of machines and testing of materials and higher sciences. After graduation he may find employment in aviation or in Diesel engineering which are rapidly expanding at this time. Engineers can find ready employment as salesmen of power plant equipment or other equipment such as air conditioning equipment because they understand the operation of them. Their knowledge is useful and necessary in real estate and in general business management.

**Chemical Engineering:** Chemical magic has given us rayon, plastics, improved dyes, stronger steels, tougher paints, better gasolines—the list of



modern chemical wizardry is endless. If you have taken to the study of chemistry in your high school course then this may be the field for you. Chemical engineers work in the laboratories experimenting with chemicals in order to find cheaper ways to produce our everyday needs and to make new products for our use. Your training is a four-year course at an engineering college after you have completed your high school studies. Include all the science subjects on your course and be sure you have a real desire to experiment before you decide to enter chemical engineering.

**Electrical Engineering:** Radio, television, aviation, medicine and research work of all kinds offer employment to the electrical engineer. Your work may be as a supervisor of the construction of electrical power plants, or you may be engaged in electrical research or in discovering ways in which electrical power can be put to use. Air conditioning, refrigeration, railroads and household appliances—are you interested in constructing them? Then look to your science and mathematics in high school and follow it up with a four-year college course and you will be a full fledged electrical engineer.

**Civil Engineering:** These are the builders of the engineering world. They make the accurate maps and surveys

and draw up the plans and designs. This is the work for a person who likes the outdoors for he will spend a great deal of time in the open on such projects as canals, dams and railroads. The opportunities for men in this field are not as great as in the other fields. Again a four-year college course is necessary after high school has been completed.

**Mining Engineering:** He explores and tests and decides on the value of new minerals which have been found. His work may take him to many countries to new adventures. Today the search for oil is world wide so there are greater opportunities for the petroleum engineer than for the general mining engineer. Either field requires a four-year college course.

You have noticed that all engineering courses require mathematics and science. Are you a strong student in these subjects? That is the important question. To get further information on these courses write to the Registrar of the university of your province.—A.T.

## Camera Fun

IT is really surprising what fun you can have with an ordinary camera; even the cheap load-and-fire species can be put to very good use.

Did you ever snapshot silhouettes? It is easy and interesting work, and when framed the pictures make ideal gifts.

To get a really effective snap you must pick out an object such as a tree or a building that stands out prominently against the western sky. But whatever the scene, be sure to take the picture about an hour before sunset, on a day when the sun is slightly obscured by a light cloud. If you like, you can clip back the window curtains and have a friend or relative pose on the sill outside with the glowing western sky as a background. Get the snap enlarged and you will have a silhouette you will be proud of.

Try making a print photo. You can use it as a novel gift and you will be surprised how well it is received. To do the trick, select from three to six prints that would make a nice set. They may be views taken during the summer vacation, snaps of different members of the family, or pictures of yourself in various poses. Paste these on a black card of the same proportions as a postcard. Label each picture by pasting under it a white strip of paper on which you have printed an appropriate title in India ink. Then photograph the whole card and you will have all the pictures on one negative. If your print photo is the size of a real postcard so much the better.

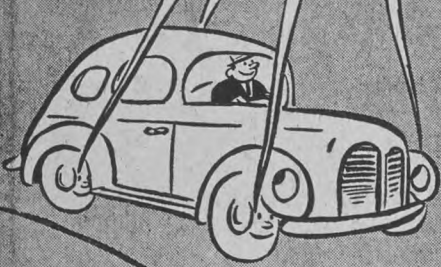
Have you a hobby? If so, try using your camera in connection with it. Keep an album for snaps of rare collection specimens. Use the camera freely at the zoo, around the fair, and in the woods. Pictures of prize birds, dogs, rabbits and other pets make interesting collections in themselves.

Very often your camera can be made to pay its own way. If there is a particularly old person in your district try to get a snapshot of him or her in an interesting pose. Possibly you could sell it to your local newspaper. If your community gets something unusual, take a picture of it. If someone in the district is a prominent sportsman endeavor to get a photograph of him with his trophy. If you run across some purebred livestock take some pictures for the owner or to sell to a farm paper. Prizes are awarded continuously for the best photos published in farm and photo journals. If you are a bit of a naturalist go camera hunting for pictures of animals or flowers in their natural setting. Many juvenile magazines buy pictures of children and animals.

So, if you are on the lookout, you can make photography not only interesting, but profitable.—Walter King.



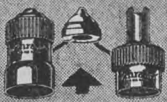
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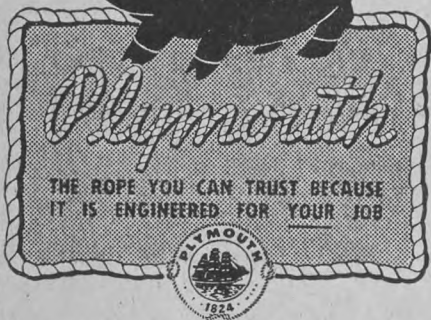
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## FARM INCOME TAX

Continued from page 7

farmer is compelled to file on the accrual basis under the existing law, he is required to make decisions which would be difficult for even a highly trained accountant, and the farmer does not ordinarily possess either the time, the knowledge, or the inclination to make the decisions, or to keep the records required for assessment on this basis.

The upshot of it is that in addition to the tax, farmers are spending considerable sums in fees to lawyers, accountants and others to do the necessary bookkeeping. Just how large the aggregate cost of this service is, it would be interesting to know.

Because of the difficulty of recording the information required by the income tax department, many farmers who are convinced of the inherent fairness of the graduated income tax, are willing to abandon it in favor of some form which imposes less bookkeeping on them. Several of the alternatives have been examined by competent and independent authorities and none of them seem to provide the answer.

One of the alternatives is to tax in accordance with the size of the farm, fixing a minimum acreage below which the operator would be exempt from taxation. Obviously, productivity per acre varies widely. It would lead to unutterable confusion to try to work out an equitable rate for the different types of farming, and for the same type of farming in safe and in hazardous crop areas. Even if such a calculation were possible few of the farmers concerned could be convinced that they were not being discriminated against.

It has been suggested that the rental or assessed valuation of the land be adopted as a measure for taxation. The most cursory examination will reveal the variation in assessment of lands for local taxation. In western Canada it is equally certain that productivity is not very closely related to rent. English experience with this method of determining taxes dates back 135 years, and is in less favor today than formerly.

Perhaps more has been said about a production tax than any of the other alternatives proposed. To everyone it raises different concepts. The wheat farmer regards it as fairly simple to dock so many bushels at the local elevator on every carload. For other commodities which do not pass through regular trade channels, as for instance truck gardeners selling from roadside stands or booths at public markets, it presents awkward difficulties. Producers of some commodities will have to do considerable bookkeeping even with a production tax.

Tax inspectors say that under normal circumstances half the farmers whose accounts pass through their offices escape income tax assessment. If farmers insist on a production tax, every grower will pay a portion of the crop, regardless of how small his operations may be. In other words, a production tax loses the advantage of the principle of graduation by which the tax is borne by those best able to bear it.

Those who advocate the production tax argue that over and against these drawbacks it has certain merits. It could be made to net \$50 to \$75 million to the federal treasury. Being a flat tax it would lessen the tendency to discontinue certain lines of production. For instance, a wheat farmer may be growing a number of hogs increase his profits to the point where he comes into the next higher bracket, paying a

higher rate of tax, not only on his hogs but on his wheat as well. Lastly, it would lift the burden of bookkeeping from the shoulders of farmers, a benefit for which some of them would forego much.

As all the alternatives to the income tax so far advanced present undesirable features it may be advisable to re-examine the latter with a view to making it more adaptable to farm needs. The Financial Post articles allege that it is common knowledge that in cases where records are absent, farm assessments are being made on the basis of net worth, after allowing for capital adjustments and the living of the family.

Net worth is a relatively new term and may require some explanation. The allegation here is that income tax assessors go into a huddle with a farmer and question him as to the value of his grain in storage, his livestock, his implements and all his other assets, in, say 1942. They then ascertain from him what his assets are in 1946. If he is better off in 1946, the figures represent his improvement in net worth. In other words the figures may be taken as his income during the interval. The total may be divided into so much for each year, and income tax for the several years be calculated.

"So far as can be ascertained," The Post states, "they (the farmers) are quite ready and willing to answer questions, and they are willing to pay the tax assessed from answers given, so long as they are relieved from the obligation of keeping records and making computations which in many cases are beyond their ability."

If net worth figures are established, it is suggested, they could be brought up to date year by year through the circulation of a properly designed questionnaire. Only the simplest records would have to be kept by the farmer. These, plus the answers to the questions would enable the tax officials to calculate the assessment, thereby freeing the farmer from the job he is so disinclined to undertake.

It is a suggestion that looks attractive on paper. Unfortunately the income tax office, in some tax districts at least, will not admit that farmers are being taxed on net worth. The most they will acknowledge doing is preparing cash statements of income for farmers who have not the necessary skill to do even that much for themselves. Nevertheless it contains a germ of an idea. If the administrative problems it would create for the department are not too great it is worth further investigation.

THERE are some minor criticisms of the present income tax regulations emanating from the country that deserve attention. First of these is the question of the wife's income. As the regulations stood at the commencement of the war if a wife earned over \$660, both she and her husband were taxed as single persons. The effect of this provision was such that wives working in wartime jobs quit just before they reached the \$660 limit. It was in the national interest that they remain at



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work. Accordingly the regulations were amended so that the wife could earn as much as circumstances permitted, on which she paid tax as a single person, but the husband continued to be taxed as a married person.

It was a common thing for urban wives in the later war years to take full time employment, and many of them continue on that basis. The farmer's wife, on the other hand, usually has a full-time job. Even if she has not, distance usually prevents her from punching a time clock. While the tax regulations make no difference between the urban and rural taxpayer with respect to the wife's labor, the farmer feels that his wife, in addition to keeping the home, contributes something to the running of the enterprise by feeding hired men, doing chores, or in other ways, and that he should be allowed some income for the wife as a deductible item of expense.

Another source of dissatisfaction is with regard to pay for the boys of the family who work on the farm. A farmer may pay his son if under the age of 18, a sum not exceeding \$400 a year, and still claim exemption for him as a dependent, in his own tax statement. The \$400 includes board, which the income tax branch calculates to be worth \$20 monthly. In other words, the farmer may not pay the boy over \$160 in cash, if the boy is being boarded at home the year around, without losing his deduction for that child.

A high proportion of modern boys are not satisfied to work for the old man at this wage. This is especially true on those farms where there are several sons, and remaining at home may not have the same ultimate inducement. A farm bred boy can earn a great deal more than the tax office allows away from home. The outcome of it is that the farmer loses his boy during the months when he is most needed, or has to forego the exemption for dependants in the case of a boy who really spends a great part of the year with his feet under Dad's table. As in the case of wages for the wife, the farmer has a valid complaint on this score. The \$400 limit should be raised.

WHETHER the federal department will recognize these claims on behalf of agriculture or not, there is another tendency, referred to in the foregoing, that calls for action. Two of the recognized weaknesses of income tax are that it encourages evasion and discourages enterprise. It is a common thing in England today, where the income tax is steeply graduated, for the building trades worker to work on the contract during the day time hours, and do his overtime, not on the same job, but on work which he has arranged privately, payment for which cannot be traced by the income tax collector. The outcome of this practice is that the taxpayer does not include his overtime wages in his tax return.

The farmer, who is not able to take other employment after hours, can at least cut out some of his chores, which are his overtime, so that his income is kept within limits. This has already had an influence in reducing the production of pork, poultry, and other farm commodities. The stage may be reached where, in the national interest, something may have to be done to restore the incentive to produce these side lines. If it cannot be done within the framework of income tax provisions, it may become necessary to subsidize them.—P.M.A.



## Imperialism

A common American conception of British policy dissected by a British Labor M.P.

A GROUP of five older British public school boys have recently completed an extensive tour through the United States, accompanied by their tutor. Their report on America's attitude toward Britain was made a leading article of The London Times. While these boys report everywhere the warmest hospitality, to their surprise and dismay the warmth of their reception was matched everywhere by bitter criticism of Britain's allegedly imperialistic foreign policy.

The London Times article has since been analyzed by Richard H. S. Crossman, a Labor member of the British parliament writing in the New York Times, from which we extract the following:

"Imperialism is aggressive and expansionist; it is a disease of young, dynamic peoples, of unsatisfied powers, of expanding economic systems. After two World Wars Britain's problem is not too little lebensraum but too many commitments. Her concern is not to find new countries to occupy but to cut down her armed forces so as to release labor for the export drive; not to expand the empire but to wind up parts of it before they disintegrate, and to transform others from colonial to dominion or allied status. Mr. Churchill may still dream of maintaining a great empire, but his is an isolated eighteenth-century voice crying in the wilderness of 1946. Most of his own party glumly accepts the fact that Britain cannot hold on to India and Egypt against the will of the Indians and Egyptians.

"The issue in England today is not whether we should hold all we have but how much we should hold and how long. What are vital British interests after the second World War? Is it essential for our survival that we should garrison Malaya, the Middle East and Africa as well as maintain the defense of the British Isles and western Europe? If all these are vital interests, are they best defended by an alliance with America designed to squeeze Russia into submission or by seeking to achieve a settlement with America and Russia? Whichever policy we choose the aim must be to devolve as many as possible of our imperial commitments either upon our allies or preferably upon the United Nations.

But suppose that it proves impossible to secure all these vital interests? Could the British people maintain their present standard of living by concentrating, for instance, on the economic development of the western Mediterranean and of Africa in close collaboration with France, Belgium and Portugal, who share with Britain the control of

the African colonies? These are the real questions of British imperial policy. They are not the questions of an imperialist nation.

Every thoughtful Englishman is obsessed by the history of France after the last war. The French emerged as victors in 1918, but at a price that France could not afford to pay. She was still a great power in terms of diplomacy, but she had neither the manpower nor the economic strength necessary to maintain this position.

"Under Clemenceau and Poincaré—the French equivalents of Churchill—she was determined to play the role that victory had given her and to impose a peace on Europe that guaranteed French security. For a generation she sought to create a grand European alliance against her major enemy, and throughout she had the support of the British Foreign Office. What she failed to obtain was the support of the British people until it was too late.

"Britain had passed through the war relatively unscathed. She was still an island far out in the Atlantic, invulnerable to anything except aerial attack—and this was still a remote danger. The British people were determined to get back to normalcy and to discard all wartime restrictions, including conscription and government control of industry.

"They were prepared to intervene in Europe on the side of 'high ideals' from time to time when they felt like it. They were not prepared to take on the permanent responsibility of guaranteeing a French security imperialism. Equally the French were not prepared to become a junior partner in an Anglo-French alliance whose policy was dictated by Britain.

"The fact is that Britain today is no more and no less imperialist than France after the last war. She too has emerged as a victor but at a price that has undermined her position as a great power. Others who paid a lesser price have benefited more from the victory. Britain will lose the peace if, as France did, she tries to remain a great power in the old sense of the word, attempts to keep all that she now holds and relies on the 'Island in the Atlantic' to defend her vital interests.

"But equally, Britain will lose the peace if she suddenly abdicates all her imperial responsibilities. Imagine that Mr. Bevin accepted the advice of the American liberals and simultaneously withdrew British troops and administrators from all over the British Empire. He would create a vacuum in the world politics that would precipitate a third world war.

ness on this scale. Modern armies with their mountainous collection of stores cannot be demobilized over night. Nevertheless some taxpayers will want to know why there are approximately 35,000 soldiers, 14,000 airmen and 8,000 sailors still on the payroll, making a force of over 57,000 which is spending money at the rate of \$487 million a year.

The main attention, however, focuses on permanent plans for the future. Ottawa is talking in terms of a permanent force of 25,000—five fold increase over prewar; an air force of 16,100, four times the 1939 numbers; and a navy of 10,000, the biggest proportionate increase of the lot. Unofficial estimates place the bill somewhere between \$200 and \$250 millions.

The Financial Post of October 19, after reviewing the above arithmetic makes the following remarks:

"Those opposed to the postwar program are not so much concerned with its financial aspects (\$225 millions next year as compared to \$34 millions in 1939) as with other ramifications.

"There is no worse clique in Canada than the permanent force brass hats,' one high-ranking militia officer observed recently. 'And the only way we ever win wars is when the civilian army manages to blast its way through the crust of permanent force officials.'

"It was hard enough to do that,' he maintained, 'when there were only 5,000 permanent force officers and men forming the "crust".' With five times as many proposed for the future, he expects the job will be that much tougher.

"Another cited the peacetime army of prewar Germany, which was limited to 100,000 men. Virtually every man was trained with sufficient thoroughness to make him a potential officer, so that

commanding the large forces mobilized for World War II was comparatively easy. In terms of the Canadian population, he pointed out, a similar army here would have only 14,000 men in it."

Some of the answers one gets from servicemen are that should Canada again find herself engaged in war, she will not have the time to raise and train a force. In atomic warfare, the attacked side never has a second chance to make good preparedness deficiencies.

On the expense side it is necessary to bear in mind the amount and diversity of equipment used by the modern warrior. Even in the course of the war the Canadian army depended largely on British and American resources for air transport. Today at Cartierville, near Montreal a new fleet of transports is being built for the R.C.A.F. Twelve of them will be finished in the current fiscal year. The "firm" order numbers fifty planes, a bill which the Post estimates may run to \$35 or \$40 million.

Most of the discussion taking place on these subjects is pure speculation. The plans of the Department of National Defense will be disclosed at the coming session of parliament and doubtless western members will take an active part in the debate.

An alert copyreader on a paper couldn't believe it—the reporter's story of the theft of 2,025 pigs.

"That's a lot of pigs," he growled, and called the farmer to check the copy.

"Was it 2,025 pigs that were stolen?" The victimized farmer replied:

"Yeth."

"Thanks," said the copyreader, and corrected the copy to two sows and 25 pigs.

## Canada's Standing Army

Plans for the postwar services taking shape

ONE of the most active guessing games now going on at Ottawa relates to the size of the naval, air and military machines which Canada should support in the coming years. Before the war our permanent force numbered 4,500; the air force, 4,000; and the "senior service" mustered only 1,800; a total of 10,300. The total service budget was approximately \$34,000,000.

At the height of the war these figures had been expanded many times over. The army alone, including those who stood off the German menace at whatever point it might break out, from Lansdowne Park to Banff, grew in number to 490,000. The air force at its maximum numbered 200,000. The navy

multiplied itself 50 times over to 90,000. This rolls up a total of 780,000.

Costs kept pace. Army expenditure climbed at one time to \$1,328 millions. The air force was the prodigal service. While there were five soldiers for every two airmen, the latter managed to spend almost dollar for dollar with the army. Naval expenditure reached a respectable total of \$412 millions a year. The whole bill amounted to \$3 billions annually. On the whole the Canadian public will accept the verdict that the money was carefully spent, although there were some items, like the bill for Ram tanks, which it would be better to forget.

On the whole too, it will be accepted that it takes time to liquidate a busi-



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THE COUNTRY GUIDE, November, 1946  
Winnipeg, Man.

From the items numbered I have selected the following in which I am interested in the literature, etc., offered.

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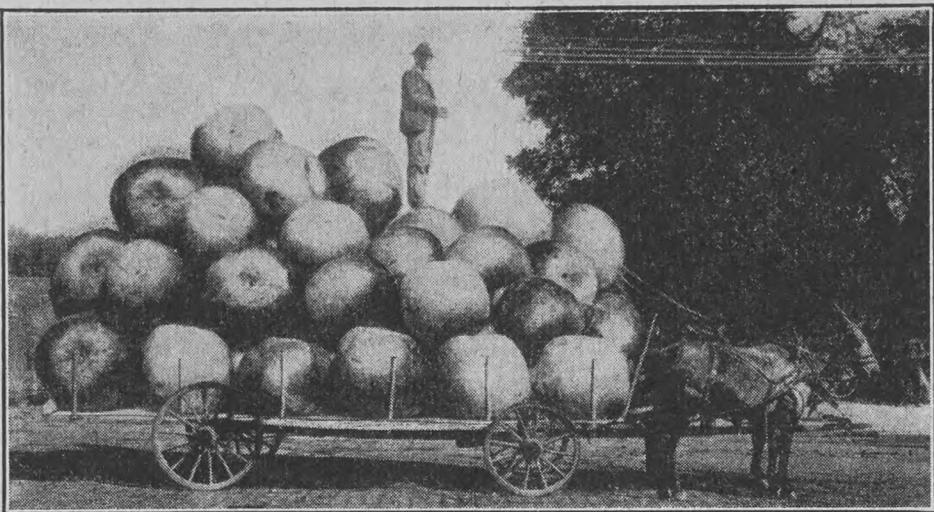
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Please print plainly.

Between Ourselves



You'll have to accept their word for it and this picture as proof that they raise good apples around Guelph.

THE picture at the top of the page comes to The Guide from Guelph, Ontario, the site of the province's agricultural college, and presumably shows the influence of that institution on farm production in the surrounding area. Between ourselves, this editor has just returned from Ontario but failed to notice any apples like these for sale in the larger cities. Indeed, if it were not for the fear of being charged with sectional prejudice, he would say that he would take B.C. apples any time, in preference to any he was able to sample.

IN this matter of sectional prejudice we have to be especially careful. A recent editorial from the Toronto Globe and Mail reminds us of it. It appears that the Toronto Transportation Commission is planning to build a rapid transit system for that city which will cost \$50,000,000. That is a lot of money so they would like to have the Federal Treasury contribute 20 per cent of it. This makes the Halifax Mail suggest that a national "Be Kind to Toronto Week" be held across Canada. This newspaper feels that, through a concerted effort, enough sympathy could be stirred up across the country to raise the ten million by popular subscription. "The country," adds the Halifax editor, "would then be free of the obligation once and for all." The Calgary Albertan has noticed this suggestion and considers that sustaining enough sympathy for Toronto for a whole week would be difficult. "A Sunday morning tag day," it concludes, "should bring in all the contributions." The Toronto Globe and Mail, failing to comprehend how much more a Sunday Tag Day would bring in cities other than it own, hides its hurt by the reflection that the money means nothing to them, "A pox on dollars." But it feels that such a tag day might bring their cause favorably before the Canadian public and generate a little more brotherly love. By some such means, it asserts, "Even Winnipeg might get to like us."

OF course if Winnipeggers feel any real antagonism toward Toronto it is quite wrong-headed of them. Your editor, walking in the drenching rain of October 18 from the Union Station in that city to the little restaurant across the street, frequented at that early hour by newspapermen and other low types, got to thinking what basis there could possibly be for such antagonism. Suddenly his eye lighted on an announcement on the front page of the same newspaper, The Globe and Mail. Let it be said, as a preliminary, that the late J. W. Dafeo, for many years editor of our esteemed contemporary, The Manitoba Free Press, published in Winnipeg, came to be recognized as one of the leading authorities on Canadian external policy. Upon his death a fund

was raised to continue his life work in promoting international goodwill, and the foundation was appropriately named after him. Recently Sumner Welles, an American statesman gave lectures in Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal under the auspices of this foundation. Now to get on with our story. The Toronto notice reads: "First public activity of the J. W. Dafeo Foundation, established in honor of the doctor who brought the Quints and many another northern Ontario baby into the world, will be the presentation of lectures by Sumner Welles."

PERHAPS, now that we are quoting so freely from some of our contemporaries, we might take the precaution to mend some holes in our own fence. In the October instalment of Under the Peace Tower, this magazine published, over the signature of Austin Cross, a reference to the prime minister in the following words: "One of the things Mr. King hoped to do, in closing his well-nigh perfect political life . . ." We would like Mr. Richard Daniel, who acidly calls our attention to it, and to the voters of Portage constituency, that this was not a deliberate estimate forged at a joint editorial conference. We plead guilty only to the charge of temporarily allowing Mr. Cross too loose a rein.

A SENATOR of our acquaintance who resents the unkindly things which are frequently said about the members of the upper house will take heart at the comparisons afforded by some recently published statistics about the upper house at Westminster. The House of Lords has 809 members but, except on special occasions, no more than 20 usually attend its sessions; and only three are required to make a quorum for the transaction of business.

THE bid for letters on sustaining vs. advertising radio programs drew a few opinions from Guide readers, but far less than we expected. The reason for such a weak response is probably explained in the short article on page 34 of this issue under the heading, "What a 4-cent stamp will do." But we take our consolation from the published statement of Wm. S. Paley, chairman of the Board of the Columbia Broadcasting System that the chains permit advertising excesses, a very restrained way of putting it.

AND, by the way, if you think the apples at the top of the page unbelievably large what about the following report. An exhibit in the British Museum of Natural History in London shows a four-inch African grasshopper, which was captured in the act of devouring a two-inch mouse held firmly between its forelegs!

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Practical Books and Bulletins

"A Country Guide Service"

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- 23. Farm Workshop Guide, edited by R. D. Colquette—Illustrations and instructions for gadgets, and practical farm plans—50 cents postpaid (or Free with a \$1.00-for-2-year subscription).
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